1	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF S					
2	FOR THE COUNTY OF YAVAPAI 2011 DEC 29 AM 8: 26					
3	SANDRA K MARKHAM, CLERN					
4	STATE OF ARIZONA,)					
5	Plaintiff,)					
6	vs.) Case No. V1300CR201080049					
7	JAMES ARTHUR RAY,)					
8	Defendant.)					
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14	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS					
15	BEFORE THE HONORABLE WARREN R. DARROW					
16	TRIAL DAY THIRTY-SIX					
17	APRIL 26, 2011					
18	Camp Verde, Arizona					
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22	ORIGINAL					
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24 25	REPORTED BY MINA G. HUNT AZ CR NO. 50619 CA CSR NO. 8335					
	CA CSR NO. 6335					

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PROCEEDINGS

THE COURT: The record will show the presence of the defendant, Mr. Ray; Ms. Do, and Mr. Kelly. I guess we have -- Mr. Li is now entering the courtroom. Ms. Polk and Mr. Hughes are here for the state. The jury is not present.

I read the defense motion to exclude testimony of Richard Haddow and renewed motion for sanctions pursuant to Rule 15.7 and part of the transcript of the first interview. I've read that.

Ms. Polk.

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MS. POLK: Thank you, Your Honor. Good morning. The state had learned last -- late last week that the defense does not intend to call Rick Haddow, nor apparently do they intend to call any other environmental scientist.

The state, then, noticed our intent to call Mr. Haddow, and we'd like to call him tomorrow to testify. And late yesterday -- late yesterday the state received the copy of the motion to exclude.

I'd just like to review briefly the events that have brought us to this issue. And a couple of weeks ago, the defense had filed a motion for a mistrial based on the email from Mr. Haddow

that they characterized as exculpatory.

2 We lost five trial days due to that motion and the subsequent request by the defense 3 4 that they be allowed time to investigate the 5 circumstances surrounding that email.

6 Two times now the defense has referenced 7 the email to the jury. The first was through the 8 cross-examination of Tom Kelly of Debbie Mercer 9 wherein he told the jury -- asked Debbie, did you 10 know that just last week the defense received a 11 report criticizing the construction of the sweat lodge? 12

And then last week through the cross-examination of Michael Hamilton, Ms. Do questioned Mr. Hamilton on whether or not he knew that people were criticizing the construction and design of the sweat lodge.

The defense, then, had filed a motion to exclude further testimony of prior sweat lodge ceremonies -- ceremonies at Angel Valley, both those conducted by Mr. Ray and those conducted by other facilitators, based on that email from Rick Haddow and again characterized the email as exculpatory and argued to the Court that the state

should no longer be allowed to provide testimony or

information to the jury about other sweat lodge ceremonies specifically because of this Haddow 3 email.

4 The defense has also asked for a jury instruction arguing to the jury -- or stating to 6 the jury that the state hid information from the defense and all of that, yet apparently does not want the jury to hear about the author -- hear from the author of this email.

10 There has been no late disclosure of Rick 11 Haddow, Your Honor. He has been disclosed and has 12 been known to the defense from last year forward. 13 The only issue is the state's decision not to call

14 Mr. Haddow.

But now we're in a position where the defense has made relevant what Mr. Haddow has to say and has filed multiple motions with the Court, has twice argued information from what is in

19 Haddow's email. And it's all hearsay. 20

The defense wants to take advantage of 21 the idea that there is information out there that 22 would be exculpatory but not bring in the

23 information itself. And because specifically the

defense argued successfully to the Court that the 24

state can no longer talk about prior sweat lodge

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events because of the Haddow email, that's why the state would like to call Mr. Haddow.

3 There have been multiple motions. There have been multiple references now to the jury, all of which is hearsay, and it's all based on an email 6 from Mr. Haddow.

7 What the state wants to do is bring in 8 the author of the email, bring in the environmental scientist, so we can get rid of the whole hearsay 10 piece and the jury can hear firsthand and the Court 11 can hear firsthand what this information is that Mr. Haddow has. And we would like to do that, Your 13 Honor, tomorrow. We'd like to bring in Mr. Haddow

14 tomorrow and have him testify. 15 THE COURT: Does the defense --

16 MR. KELLY: Judge, I'm behind the monitor.

17 But --

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18 THE COURT: Okay.

MR. KELLY: -- we've set forth our -- our reasons objecting to Mr. Haddow's testimony in the motion which was filed yesterday. I didn't really anticipate arguing that this morning since there has not been a written response by the state.

But clearly, as set forth in the motion, it would be almost an unmitigated disaster in this

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received.

case to allow Mr. Haddow to testify for the reasons 2 set forth in the motion.

First of all, I can't imagine under any construct that the Brady violation would somehow open the door now to allow the state to present testimony of this witness. The five-day delay was because of that Brady violation, not some --

May I step over here, Judge?

THE COURT: Of course.

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MR. KELLY: The loss of the five days of trial days was because of the Brady violation, not the disclosure.

Finally, Judge, and most importantly, I would submit, as indicated in the motion and the transcript -- transcript which is attached, we would have to conduct a Frye hearing to determine the scope of the testimony allowed by Mr. Haddow. So tomorrow is not possible or anytime throughout the trial.

THE COURT: Anything else, Ms. Polk?

MS. POLK: Your Honor, just, again, it appears that the defense wants it both ways. They -- they want to call what Mr. Haddow has to say Brady and exculpatory, yet they don't want the Court or the 25 jury to hear about it.

10

For the state the issue is this: Again, it's the issue of causation. And every new 3 variable that is introduced makes Mr. Ray's conduct even more important to the issue of causation. 5 There is more information that the jury should hear about prior sweat lodge ceremonies conducted by 7 Mr. Ray at Angel Valley and -- as well as ceremonies conducted by other facilitators.

Specifically there are events that

occurred in 2005, and there are additional witnesses who can add more information to what occurred in 2007 and 2008. The defense had argued 12 13 to this Court successfully that the state should not be allowed to conduct further inquiry or testimony into the issue of the prior sweat lodge ceremonies conducted by Mr. Ray because of the Haddow report. And yet they don't want the jury or the Court to hear from that very witness.

And so that's the state's intention is to 20 present the testimony from Mr. Haddow. And the state -- we renew our request to this Court that we 22 be allowed to bring in more information on the very 23 issue of causation. Because the more variables that there are, the more important it becomes that the constant -- the one constant is Mr. Ray's

1 conduct in conducting his sweat lodge ceremonies.

2 THE COURT: Ms. Polk, there was a request to 3 interview Mr. Haddow on December 7 of 2010. And 4 the reply was you were not going to call him. And that was despite the information that had been

7 Opening up these various technical 8 matters at this time, two months into the trial, 9 it's not appropriate. You know, there -- there has

been no compliance at all with 15.6.

11 With regard to your concern about 12 interjecting hearsay, I dealt with those 13 objections. We had bench conferences. And that's 14 inappropriate to, basically, interject a statement 15 and say, this is what happens, and see if somebody 16 agrees with it. And I've sustained objections to

At the same time, I've allowed questions 19 that go to the structure of the sweat lodge and what people knew about it, the people who constructed it and were part of it. So this is, essentially, disclosure that was made almost a year after its discovery. And to just open up these issues in this fashion now, it just -- it's not in accordance with the rules, so Mr. Haddow is

precluded as a state witness.

that -- to that effect.

2 MS. POLK: And, Your Honor, the state renews its request to be able to continue on the issue of causation, to bring in information for the jury about Mr. Ray's prior sweat lodge ceremonies.

6 What the Court had ruled last week was 7 because the Haddow information -- I think what the -- the Court observed at the time is that it introduced some more variables. And it's for that reason the state intended to call Mr. Haddow, to 11 let the Court see what those variables are and to 12 let the Court see that those variables are factors 13 that go to Mr. Ray's conduct with respect to the 14 issue of causation.

THE COURT: If the report had been disclosed last April 2010, then that might have been the way the trial proceeded. But to interject that now, it's coming in as late disclosure. I denied the motion for a mistrial, gave the defense a chance to prepare for the late disclosed information. And to just add this to the trial at this time just is not appropriate.

MS. POLK: And, Your Honor --

24 THE COURT: It's not.

MS. POLK: And I understand your ruling. I'm

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- not trying to -- to argue that issue. The issue 1
- 2 that I'm asking the Court to reconsider is allowing
- the state to present through the testimony of
- Amayra Hamilton and additional witnesses the
- information that goes to causation. And that
- 6 specifically would be the events in 2005 and some
- 7 additional information with respect to 2007
- and 2008. 8

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THE COURT: This Court made a distinction at the time of the 404(b) ruling about the effects that were apparent after prior sweat lodges and the effects that were apparent after the 2009 sweat lodge. There is, essentially, a distinction in

14 kind, not just agreed.

> I've talked repeatedly about propensity evidence and the danger of just having cumulative evidence that might go to causation in a circumstantial way become the focus of the trial rather than the events of 2009.

I have not stricken the testimony that has been admitted so far. And as I've indicated before, that's hours of testimony. The defense says days. That's not been stricken because it's conceivable. I don't know what these other experts might say, but it's conceivable that there is a

connection causally with that information. So

the -- the rulings that I've made stand.

3 Are there any other legal issues that I need to address? I've tried to keep up with a list 4 as these things have been filed throughout the 5 6 trial. And I -- and I need to know if there are

7 other pending legal issues that need a ruling.

8

Ms. Polk.

MS. POLK: None, Your Honor.

And I just want to clarify. The Court had made it clear in your last ruling that the information about what happened on other events would be relevant -- could be relevant to other issues as well.

15 THE COURT: I've always said if there is a basis outside the 404(b) justification. That was 16 17 stated at the start.

MS. POLK: Thank you.

MR. LI: But just -- just so we're clear, 19 though, my understanding of the Court's ruling of 20 21 Friday, I believe, is that we're not going into any 22 prior sweat lodge testimony relating to any of it other than very limited background on the lines of 23 what Mr. Hughes said, that he would just say you were -- you know -- you -- Mr. Ray rented the --

1 the facilities in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006.

2 THE COURT: There is not going to be testimony about the -- the Daniel P. matter, as I've referred to that incident. And one of the reasons for that

is just the remoteness.

the supervision.

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6 MR. LI: We had also understood '07 and '08 were not going to be at issue. And that's exactly the reason why Ms. Do approached the Court at sidebar and said, we're not -- we don't want to 10 open the door, and limited her questions to, I believe, two or three questions. And this Court 11 12 required Ms. Polk to only ask one question about

So I just want to make sure that we're all clear on what the rules of the road are just so I can state what I think where -- where the ball is right now.

THE COURT: It is so hard to determine before you hear testimony what potential relevance might be. The ruling is is that -- you've stated it correctly, Mr. Li. You have.

22 MR. LI: Thank you.

23 THE COURT: Ms. Polk, I want to -- to make sure we have a mutual -- or you have an agreed 24 understanding of that ruling.

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1 MS. POLK: Your Honor, I believe we do. There will be no testimony about the 2005 incident.

The -- when -- when Detective Diskin testifies, as

the Court knows, the defense has -- one of the

themes of the defense is that very early on 5

Detective Diskin focused on Mr. Ray to the 6

7 exclusion of looking at other possible issues.

8 And Detective Diskin will testify about

information he was receiving, including 10 information -- he interviewed close to a hundred

11 witnesses, including witnesses from prior sweat

12 lodges, and that that information helped him form

13 on -- on the very issue that I have been addressing

14 this morning, which is that when it was Mr. Ray who 15 was running the event, there were problems. And so

that is part of the reason why Detective Diskin, 16

17 then, focuses on the issue of heat and that

18 comparison.

> The information would come in briefly, then, through Detective Diskin's testimony how his investigation included looking at prior sweat lodges, looking at ceremonies held by other people, and then that's why the direction of the

investigation took its course.

THE COURT: I want to get the trial started on

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1	time.	
2	But, Mr. Kelly	
3	MR. KELLY: Judge	
4	THE COURT: this is about a later witness.	
5	So please	
6	MR. KELLY: And I I and I was going to say	
7	I'll be handling the cross-examination of Mr or	
8	Detective Diskin. So when appropriate, Judge, I	
9	would like to discuss that.	
10	THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to give you my	
11	initial thoughts. I'd like people to know, if	
12	the if the investigation is being challenged,	
13	certainly a witness should be able to explain why	
14	he or she went a particular direction. The	
15	question once again is getting into what I would	
16	consider 403 prejudicial characterizations or	
17	characterizations that are not founded. I just	
18	want to say that much at this time. We can address	
19	that when the witness actually is about to testify.	
20	We'll start in a few minutes. Thank you.	
21	(Recess.)	
22	THE COURT: The record will show the presence	
23	of the defendant, Mr. Ray; the attorneys, and the	
24	jury. Mr. Hamilton has returned to the witness	
25	stand having previously been sworn.	
		18

know whether he would have been able to understand any conversations that were occurring inside that 6 sweat lodge? 7 No. Everything we do with him has to be very slow, very clear, or else he does not 8 understand the real meaning of different words. 10 You were asked by Ms. Do whether you ever 11 received immunity from the state. Do you recall 12 that question? 13 Α. I do. Q. 14 Did you ever receive immunity from the 15 state in exchange for testifying here at this 16 trial? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Have you always cooperated with the 19 detectives in this case? Α. Yes. 20 21 Q. And the attorney that has been present 22 for the interviews -- who hired the attorney? 23 Α. Our insurance company. 24 Q. You were asked questions from Ms. Do about Angel Valley Ministries and the board of 20 1 directors.

I believe, but I don't know. I was not

And if Mr. Vasquez had been there, do you

there, so I'm not 100 percent sure.

1 Ms. Polk, you may continue with redirect. 2 MS. POLK: Thank you, Your Honor. 3 REDIRECT EXAMINATION (Continued)

BY MS. POLK: 4

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Q. Good morning, Mr. Hamilton.

6 Α. Good morning.

7 Q. Do you recall a question from Ms. Do 8

about one of your employees, a man named Rotillo

9 Vasquez?

10 Α.

Q. And remind the jury who Mr. Vasquez is.

12 He is the man that came with us back in 13 19 -- actually, in 2002 before we even got to Angel

Valley and has been working with us in landscaping. 14

So he's been there since 2002.

Q. Does Mr. Vasquez speak English?

17 Very little. He knows enough to

18 communicate the work that needs to be done and

construction. But beyond that he doesn't 19

understand English or the deeper meanings of -well, of the English language.

Q. And on October 8th of 2009, when Mr. Ray

was conducting his sweat lodge ceremony, to your

24 knowledge, was Mr. Vasquez present at the site of

25 the sweat lodge?

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Α. Right.

3 Q. Do you recall those questions?

Α. 4 I do.

Today how many people are on the board of

6 directors for Angel Valley Ministries?

A. There are three on the board today.

Q. And in 2009 -- on October 8, 2009, how

9 many people were on the board of directors?

10 Α. There were five.

> Q. Do you recall the names of the members

12 then?

13 Α. I do.

> Q. Will you tell the jury.

Α. I will. Michael Hamilton, Divera

16 Hamilton, Lynn Groff, Sue Ellen Trumble-Cheney, and

17 Thomas Allen.

18 Q. Did some of those members resign after

19 October 8th of 2009?

> Α. Two of them did.

21 Q. You were asked about some of the services

22 that you provided Angel Valley in the way of

ministry and whether you provide for the 23

24 services -- whether you charge for the services.

Do you charge for some of your ministry?

- Sunday mornings we have gatherings, which you would normally call a "church service." There is no charge for that. People can come that day.
- They can walk around the land. They can be part of
- the -- the gathering or not. And on Sundays we
- also have lunch. They do not have to pay for that.
 - Wednesday evenings we have a meditation. Different times throughout the week we have
- charges come up when people are there in the
- retreat center capacity and are there for an
- all part of the Angel Valley Spiritual Retreat
- Center part.
- 20 **Q.** Thank you. You were asked a question by 21 Ms. Do about your bankruptcy and whether you were
- 22 trying to avoid paying creditors by filing. Do you
- 23 recall that question?
- 24 Α. I do.
- 25 Q. What type of bankruptcy did you file?
- A. 1 Chapter 11.
- 2 Q. And who filed?
- 3 Α. Michael and Amayra Hamilton.
- 4 Q. Not the businesses?
- 5 Α. No.
- 6 Q. Not the business?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. And in a Chapter 11 do you get -- are you
- 9 able to avoid paying your creditors?
- 10 Α. No.

- Q. Explain to the jury.
- 12 Chapter 11 is, basically, a
- 13 reorganization when you believe what you are doing
- 14 is right, when you know that there is merit in
- 15 continuing and you believe in what you're doing.
- 16 And in our case, we had a choice of
- 17 filing Chapter 7, which would have been a total 18 annihilation of all -- elimination of all debt.
- 19 And our attorney asked, which one do you want? And
- 20 we said, we don't want that one. We want the one
- 21 where we have an opportunity to reorganize,
- restructure, and keep going, and work to the best 22
- 23 of our ability to pay all the creditors as much
- 24 money as we're able to.
- 25 So we had a choice of running away and

- turning our back. We said, no. We want to work
- through it to the best of our ability. And that's
- why we chose Chapter 11, which gives us the time in
- order to do that.

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- Q. I'm going to put up on the overhead
- Exhibit 460, which is a copy of one of the Angel
- 7 Valley waivers that was admitted into evidence.
- And you were asked questions by Ms. Do about your
- 9 understanding of the waiver and your intentions.
- 10 You testified last week about the
- 11 acceptance of responsibility.
 - Α. Yes.
 - Q. Did you put that language in this waiver?
- 14 Α. I did.
- 15 Q. And are you able to see on 460 on the
- 16 overhead what was put in here?
 - Will you point to the jury, first of all,
- 18 where it talks about acceptance of responsibility.
- 19 Α. At the very top. It's waiver of --20 waiver release of liability and my acceptance of
- 21 responsibility.
- 22 Q. And this section that appears next -- who
- 23 put in this language into the waiver at Angel
- 24 Valley?

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- 25 Α. I did.
 - Are you able to read that for the jury?
- 2 Α. I am. Based upon our philosophy and
- 3 mission statement, Angel Valley has created the
- 4 following policy:
- 5 We believe that we are all creators of
- 6 our own reality. Therefore, we ask that you sign
- 7 this waiver and declare that you take full and
- complete responsibility for all your creations 8
- 9 while at Angel Valley.
 - If you have any questions, please ask for our philosophy and mission statement.
- 12 Q. And you testified last week about the
- 13 portion that was important to you and the portion
- 14 that was important to the attorneys?
 - Α. Yes.
 - Q. Which part was important to you?
- 17 Α. The first part --
- 18 Q. And then --
 - Α. -- of what I just read.
- 20 Q. And then what part was the part the
- 21 attorneys wanted in?
- 22 Α. Everything below that.
 - You were asked by Ms. Do whether this
- 24 waiver relieved you of responsibility. First of
- 25 all, do you know what legal validity these waivers

1 have?

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- 2 A. No.
- Q. And has this waiver prevented
- 4 participants from the Spiritual Warrior 2009
- 5 seminar conducted by Mr. Ray -- has that prevented
- 6 them from filing lawsuits against you?
- 7 A. No.
 - Q. I want to just briefly go back to the
- 9 photographs from 2006 portraying the rat poison.
- 10 And these would be Exhibit 882 and 883. First of
- 11 all, Ms. Do had asked you when she cross-examined
- 12 you if you would provide digital copies of these
- 13 photos to her.
- 14 Do you recall that?
- 15 A. I do.
- 16 Q. And have you done that?
- 17 A. I believe my wife has. Yes.
- 18 Q. This section here -- and that appears to
- 19 say 26, and then it has a time of 3:23 a.m.
- 20 A. Yes.
- **Q.** Was the --
- 22 A. And actually it should be p.m.
- **Q.** Was the photograph taken at a.m.?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. And do you -- can you explain that to the
 - 26
 - Jury why it would be stamped that way.
- 2 A. We normally do our best to keep the time
- 3 straight. But in that particular digital -- Amayra
- 4 would know better exactly why it's that. But this
- 5 was actually taken in the afternoon, not in the
- 6 morning. And there was a -- basically, a 12-hour
- 7 difference in the time that was on the camera.
- **Q.** Would that be true for each of the
- 9 photographs in that time stamp?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Were these photographs taken in the year
- **12** 2006?
- 13 A. They were.
- 14 THE COURT: Excuse me. Ms. Polk, this is a
- 15 technical matter. 883 has not been admitted at
- 16 this time.
- 17 MS. POLK: Your Honor, I would move for the
- 18 admission of 883.
- 19 MS. DO: No objection to this.
- 20 THE COURT: All right.
- 21 883 is admitted.
- 22 (Exhibit 883 admitted.)
- 23 MS. POLK: Thank you, Your Honor.
- **Q.** And were these taken in 2006?
- 25 A. They were.

- 1 Q. Is that consistent with the digital
- 2 copies provided?
 - A. Yes.

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- 4 Q. I want to just clarify the use of
- 5 chemical products at Angel Valley over the years.
 - A. Okay.
- **Q.** And let's do it by approaching the easel.
- 8 I'm going to see if I can get you to help out here
- 9 at the easel. Put it this way a little bit. And I
- 10 just want to first ask you about rats. And where
- 11 was the problem with rats?
 - A. 2006 they were in my car -- my truck,
- 13 actually.
- 14 Q. And if you would just write, then, under
- 15 the product column what are the products used in
- 16 2006 to address the rat -- the rat problem.
 - And that says what?
 - A. One Bite, d-CON pellets. And the other
- 19 one was Eaton. Just call it a "green biscuit."
- 20 I'm not sure of the exact name.
- **Q.** Did you also use moth balls in 2006?
- 22 A. I did. Yes.
- **Q.** In 2007 what did you do for the rats?
- 24 A. I got four cats.
- 25 Q. And did you have -- continue to have an
- 1 issue with rats in areas where the cats could not
 - 2 ao in?

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- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And do you recall what year?
- 5 A. It would have been -- I know -- as -- as
- 6 best I can, 2008.
 - Q. And that would be where?
- 8 A. In the pump house, in the attic of the --
- 9 the dining facility.
- **10 Q.** Areas where the cats couldn't go?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. What products did you use?
- 13 A. One Bite.
- 14 Q. And what years do you believe,
- 5 Mr. Hamilton, you used One Bite in the pump house?
- 16 A. (No audible response.)
- 17 Q. And then the other problem that you had
 - 8 talked about are the ants. What year did you --
- 19 what year have you used any sort of product for
- 20 ants, natural or chemical?
 - A. First was probably 2003, 2004.
- 22 Q. Up to when?
- 23 A. Up to the present time.
 - Q. And what did you use?
 - A. There was a -- I have it written down.

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1 Is it orange oil?

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- 2 Q. Orange oil. Okay.
- 3 Α. I believe it was.
- Q. 4 And you had testified last week about the 5

use of diatomaceous earth?

- Α. Yeah. That was another product. This all -- and there was one other ingredient -- I don't remember what it was -- that went into an actual spray that we sprayed on wherever the ants were. We also used the diatomaceous earth.
 - Q. And are all of those chemical free?
- 12 Α. Yes, they are.
- 13 Q. And then there was testimony about 2010.
- 14 And where was the -- where was there an issue
- in 2010 with ants? Cabin 6? 15
- 16 Α. Yes.
- 17 Q. And what did you use?
- 18 Α. AMDRO.
- Q. AMDROL? Is that with an "L"? 19
- 20 A. AMDRO. No. No "L." AMDRO, A-M-D-R-O.
- 21 A-M-D-R-O. Prior to 2010 did you ever
- 22 use any chemicals to address ants at Angel Valley?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. 24 Could I just have you initial -- why
- 25 don't you just write across the top. Initial this
- 30

- 1 for me.
- 2 Thank you. You can go ahead and sit
- 3 down.
- 4 The photographs of the pump house showing
- the One Bite that has been shown to the jury taken 5
- 6 in 2011 -- do you recall those photographs?
- 7 Α. I do.
 - Q. You testified that those photographs were
- 9 staged?

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- 10 Α. They were.
- 11 Q. Did you ever suggest to anybody that they
- 12 were not staged?
- 13 Α. No.
- Q. 14 And tell the jury. Were those
- 15 photographs intended to depict the conditions of
- 16 the pump house or just the use of poison?
 - It was only intended to show the use of where the poison would be under the table on a
- 19 plate, not for the whole pump house. We would have
- 20 had a -- I'm not sure how we would have staged the 21 whole pump house.
- 22 And just a couple of questions about the 23
- contract that Angel Valley Retreat Center had with 24 James Ray International for him to conduct his
- seminar out at Angel Valley. How far in advance 25

- 1 did you negotiate contracts with James Ray
- International?
- 3 Α. Generally, it would be up to a year, two vears, in advance. The one that was in 2009 was actually negotiated in 2007 but then remodified 6 in 2008.
- 7 Q. And did you know prior to the events of 8 October 8th, 2009, whether James Ray International 9 was coming back the next year?
 - Α. Yes. We knew he would not be returning.
- 11 Q. There was some questions about the
- 12 vegetarian meals offered to you -- or provided to
- 13 the participants at Spiritual Warrior 2009. Do you
- 14 know whether or not that's the same food that
- 15 Mr. Ray ate?

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- 16 A. In 2009 it was.
- 17 MS. DO: Objection, Your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: Sustained as to foundation.
 - BY MS. POLK: I wanted to ask you,
- 20 Mr. Hamilton, about the ceremony that you had at
- 21 Angel Valley on October 10th of 2009. And there's
- been some questions from Ms. Do about what happened
- 23 to the materials. Had the scene been released by
- the Yavapaı County Sheriff's Office prior to your
- 25 having your ceremony?

Yes.

Α.

- Q. With respect to the coverings, the
- samples of the material that had been on the sweat
- lodge that you and I opened together and you showed
- 5 the jury, in response to a question from Ms. Do,
- you agreed that you had not been the one to put
- 7 together the sweat lodge or take it down over the
- 8 vears.
- 9 Do you recall that?
- 10 Α. I do.
- 11 Q. However, in conducting the ceremony on
- October 10th of 2009, did you not, in fact, handle
- 13 the materials then?
 - Α. I did.
 - Q. And I'm going to put up on the overhead
- Exhibit 562. Is that you in the photograph? 16
 - Α. It is.
- 18 Q. And tell the jury what you did with the 19 materials at that time that allowed you to handle 20 them.
- 21 Α. All of us gathered together, and we took 22 the material off of the actual frame. And once it 23 was on the ground like a tarp -- you see me there with something in my hand. It's a knife where 25 we're actually cutting it into smaller pieces so I

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- 1 can load it up. It is too heavy to actually --
- 2 well, too heavy. There was other things with it.
- So we took it apart. I cut it up, put it in the
- back of my van, took it down to the Verde Recycling 5 Center.
- 6 Q. Do you recall whether you are the ones who took it off the frame, or did the detectives 7
- 8 take it off the frame?
- 9 Α. We did.
- 10 Q. You recall you took it off?
- 11 Α. Yes.
- 12 Q. And in your handling of those materials,
- did you recognize the coverings? 13
- 14 Α. I did.
- 15 Q. Did you recognize the coverings to be the
- 16 same as prior years?
- 17 Α. Yes.
- Q. To your knowledge, Mr. Hamilton, were 18
- 19 those same coverings used every year at Angel
- 20 Valley for the sweat lodge ceremony?
- 21 MS. DO: Objection, Your Honor. Foundation.
- 22 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 23 BY MS. POLK: Did you get sick in any
- 24 way, Mr. Hamilton, after handling these coverings?
- 25 A. No.
 - Q. Do you recall the questions from Ms. Do
- 2 about pressure-treated wood and specifically about
- something called "chromated copper arsenic" or 3
- "CCA"? 4

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- 5 Α. Yes.
- 6 Q. Are you away -- aware that CCA has been
- 7 banned since January of 2004 for wood used in both
- 8 residential and commercial construction?
- 9 Α. I was not aware of that. No.
- 10 Q. When you acquired those cedar logs from
- 11 Hilltop Log Homes, were you specifically looking
- 12 for wood that was chemical free?
- 13 Α. Yes.
- 14 Q. I want to zoom in on the pile that Ms. Do
- 15 had you look at. And then I put up on the overhead
- 16 Exhibit 562. And tell the jury what it is that
- 17 they're looking at back here.
- 18 That is our lumber storage area that we
- 19 had where any lumber that we were not using and was
- 20 waiting to either be used or to be -- basically, to
- be used was put there. So that is the -- the --21
- 22 what you would call a "lumber stockpile."
- 23 Q. And what is the length of those pieces of
- 24 lumber back there?
- 25 A. Ranging anywhere from -- this one right

- 1 here is between 12 and 16 feet underneath.
 - Would any of that wood be of a size that
- you -- a person could use in a -- in a fire?
- Α.
- 5 Q. The wood that ultimately was heat -- used
- to heat rocks for the 2009 sweat lodge ceremony --
- 7 at some point was it back here with this wood?
 - A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And how did it get -- at whose direction
- 10 did it get from this pile to a different stockpile?
 - Α. Mine.
- 12 Q. Now, I'm going to put up on the overhead
- 13 Exhibit 493. Tell the jury what pile of wood this
- 14 IS.
- 15 Α. Which pile? Those are the D logs that
- 16 were used -- to be used in the actual fire of the
- 17 heating of the rocks.
- 18 Q. And were those logs at one point in the
- 19 pile of logs that we just looked at?
- 20 Α. Yes.
- 21 Q. And tell the jury, then, who you gave
- 22 instructions to -- explain to them how wood goes
- 23 from the big pile with long pieces to the cut-up
- 24 stack there.

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- Α. If you can go back to the other picture,
- I can start there.
 - Q. Okay. Do you want me to zoom in?
- 3 Yes. If you could, please. If you can
- 4 see right here, there are timbers on the ground.
- 5 There was a pile of these logs on top of those
- 6 timbers. And that's where we started to eat into
- 7 the whole wood pile. And I said, take these logs,
- 8 cut them up, and put them over by the sweat lodge.
- So they went from what I just circled over to the 9
- 10 pile that you see on the other photo.
 - And that's Exhibit 493.
- 12 Α. Which also has the bottom runners on that
- 13 we stored the material on. So we moved some of the
- 14 long ones over, put it on the ground, and then put
- 15 these on the top of it. So it went from the one
- 16 pile directly over to the other pile.
 - Q. And is any of this wood pressure treated?
- 18 Α. None.
- 19 Q. I want to ask you --
- 20 Your Honor, Counsel agrees to the
- 21 admission of Exhibit 491.
- 22 THE COURT: 491 is admitted.
- 23 (Exhibit 491 admitted.)
 - BY MS. POLK: And I'm going to put that
- 25 up on the overhead, Mr. Hamilton. First of all,

And what is that wood?

Does pressure-treated wood look different

The D log.

It does.

Q.

A.

Q.

Α.

than these D logs?

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heat.

We were told that it was too high. It

had about another at least two to three feet in

in 2008. And the higher it is, the more difficult

it is to heat up and to -- you know -- contain the

height over the one that we -- that was built

Q. Who told you it was too high? 1

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MS. DO: Objection. Hearsay, Your Honor.

MS. POLK: Your Honor, it goes to why a new 3 sweat lodge was constructed. 4

THE COURT: The hearsay, though. And I'm going to have to speak with counsel. Just a minute here.

(Sidebar conference.)

9 THE COURT: I'm assuming the answer is going 10 to be Mr. Ray.

MS. POLK: Yes. I believe it's staff from 11 12 JRI.

THE COURT: That's a difference. Go ahead.

14 MS. POLK: The reason the state is offering it is because there have been suggestions that the 15

design of the sweat lodge was faulty or somehow 16

defective. And it's relevant that it is at James 17

Ray International's request that this sweat lodge 18

19 is taken down and a smaller one with a lower

20 ceiling is constructed in 2008 for use in '08 and 21 '09.

22 THE COURT: Ms. Do.

23 MS. DO: This question was asked on direct. I objected both on hearsay and foundation. There are 24 25

two issues. One, it is hearsay. It tends to also

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1 go to propensity evidence we've spoken about. And,

secondly, this witness has already testified that

he didn't speak directly to Mr. Ray about this. It

would be coming from a third party.

THE COURT: I'm not concerned about the propensity part. This is just general background.

7 I have no issue with that.

8 It's how -- I do have a question,

Ms. Polk related to the hearsay nature, somebody

10 from JRI versus Mr. Ray. And this just may not be

11 the witness to have that come in.

12 MS. POLK: Your Honor, I'm not offering it to 13 prove that it was someone from JRI. I'm not

offering it to prove that -- the truth of the 14

15 matter asserted, which is the ceiling was too high,

16 because that's not the issue.

> The issue is that the defense has suggested that it is a defective sweat lodge design, that it is somebody other than Mr. Ray who is somehow responsible for the deaths because of that.

22 This is relevant to show why the 2007 sweat lodge was taken down and why a smaller one 23 24 with a lower ceiling was built for 2008.

THE COURT: If Mr. -- If Mr. Ray was the one

1 who had said it, I wouldn't have any problem. But

having it come in and implying that it was Mr. Ray.

So if it's, basically, someone else who said it was

too high, he was told that, you can lead him

through and make that point. He's doing it in

response to somebody. But to attribute it to

Mr. Ray is just hearsay.

MS. POLK: I'll lay a foundation.

THE COURT: Okay. A JRI employee isn't going

10 to do it either --

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11 MS. DO: It's not a foundation issue or

12 foundation objection, Your Honor. It goes to the

admissibility of the type of evidence that Ms. Polk

14 is trying to seek in that question. And I believe

on direct examination, the witness testified that

16 it was someone from JRI. It was not something that

17 Mr. Ray said to him specifically. And so it would

18 be, essentially, attributed to him without --

19 MS. POLK: Your Honor, on cross-examination

20 Ms. Do confronted this witness and suggested to the

21 jury that this witness is somehow responsible for

22 the deaths because he is the one who oversaw the

23 design and construction of the sweat lodge.

It's relevant for this jury to know that

it was JRI who wanted a sweat lodge with a lower

ceiling. And that's why they tore down the 2007

and built the 2008 sweat lodge.

3 The issue goes to the construction and

design of the sweat lodge, at whose direction it 5 was being constructed in that revised fashion, and

not to prove the truth that it was -- that the

7 ceiling was too high. The statement is that --

8 THE COURT: I understand. I understand the concept completely. And as Ms. Do is pointing out,

10 it's also who is chargeable with that, with the

11 statement. If it's not offered for the truth, in

12 fact, it's too high, too low, who knows. As far as

13 I know, there are no industry standards on building

a sweat lodge. So that part, the substantive -- I

can see how going to the truth -- but the other

16 thing is to who is it attributable to.

MS. POLK: I can lay the foundation. If it's not this witness who had that conversation, then I would move on. But I can lay the foundation who had the conversation, who it was, and then what was said.

22 MS. DO: Your Honor, this was already covered 23 on direct. We know that there is no foundation.

Mr. Ray did not speak to him about it. So just

25 asking the foundational questions suggests, again,

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- 1 that it's a statement attributable to Mr. Ray.
- 2 Even if the Court after hearing foundation fails,
- 3 the same suggestion the jury now will hear. This
- 4 has already been covered on direct.
- THE COURT: Sustained. Sustained.
- 6 MS. DO: Thank you.
- 7 (End of sidebar conference.)
- 8 THE COURT: Ms. Polk.
- 9 MS. POLK: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 10 Q. Who was it, Mr. Hamilton, who you hired
- 11 in 2008 to oversee the design and construction of
- 12 the sweat lodge?

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- 13 A. David Singing Bear.
- **Q.** And do you recall the question by Ms. Do
- 15 whether it was David Singing Bear who determined
- 16 the diameter, the overall width, the width of the
- 17 door, the height, the location of the pit for the
- 18 heated rocks?
- 19 A. I do.
- 20 Q. Do you recall that question? Are you
- 21 aware of any industry standards for the
- 22 construction of a sweat lodge?
- 23 A. No.
- **Q.** And are there any?
- 25 A. Not to my knowledge.
- 1 Q. How many people was that sweat lodge
 - constructed in 2008 built to accommodate?
- 3 A. Seventy-five.
- 4 Q. And at whose request?
- 5 MS. DO: Same objection, Your Honor. Hearsay
- 6 and foundation.

- 7 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 8 MS. POLK: Your Honor, pursuant to Rule 106,
- 9 as I had noted during the cross, I would like to
- 10 have Mr. Hamilton read from the paragraph of the
- 11 complaint.
- 12 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- **Q.** BY MS. POLK: Mr. Hamilton, I'm going to
- 14 show you what's been marked as Exhibit 884. Do you
- 15 recognize what this is?
- 16 A. I do.
- 17 Q. And what is it?
- 18 A. It's our complaint against James Ray.
- 19 Q. And do you recall when Ms. Do asked
- 20 you -- read to you from paragraph 12 of the
- 21 complaint during your cross-examination?
- 22 A. I do. Yes.
- **Q.** I would just have you read to the jury
- 24 the rest of that first sentence.
- 25 A. Okay. In September of 2008, Angel

- 1 Valley's general manager, Gary Palisch, contracted
- 2 with David Singing Bear, a full-blooded Native
- 3 American, to design and oversee the construction of
- 4 a sweat lodge to accommodate 75 people as per
- 5 defendant's instruction.
 - Q. And who is the defendant in this lawsuit?
- 7 A. James Ray.
 - MS. DO: Your Honor, I have no objection to
- 9 the admission of 884 if counsel wishes.
- 10 THE COURT: Did you want to agree to any
- 11 further admission?
- 12 MS. POLK: Your Honor, may I have time to look
- 13 at that and address that?
- 14 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
 - Q. BY MS. POLK: Mr. Hamilton, what is the
- 6 purpose of a sweat lodge -- what is the purpose of
- 17 a -- the lodge itself, the sweat lodge container?
- 18 MS. DO: Objection, Your Honor. Foundation.
- 19 THE COURT: Sustained as to foundation.
- 20 Q. BY MS. POLK: With respect to the design
- 21 of the sweat lodge, its size, it's diameter, the
- 22 distance from the floor to the ceiling, those are
- 23 all things that as the owner of Angel Valley you
- 24 oversaw when you hired the -- the various
- 25 consultants in 2007 and 2008?
 - A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And what is the purpose of the design of
- 3 a sweat lodge?
- 4 MS. DO: Same objection, Your Honor.
- 5 Foundation.
- 6 THE COURT: If you can answer that from your
- 7 knowledge, you may do so. If you can't, you need
- 8 to let the attorney know.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 10 From my knowledge, a sweat lodge is
- 11 designed and is based upon creating a container
- 12 that heat can be generated within it. The intent
- 13 of the shape, from my knowledge and from my limited
- 14 awareness, is it creates the feeling of a womb for
- 15 rebirthing, for reprocessing, for going deep into
- 16 the dark, and that -- so it could contain heat,
- 17 which would allow people to experience what they
- 18 needed to experience.
- **Q.** BY MS. POLK: And who is it who controls
- 20 the heat inside a sweat lodge?
- 21 A. It's called a -- you have a fire tender,
- 22 which is outside. But the person inside is called
- 23 a "pourer," p-o-u-r-e-r, a pourer, a person that
 - 4 pours the lodge. He's the one determining how much
- 25 water -- or she -- determining how much water goes

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on the rocks. And the water in the rocks is what 1 2 creates the steam and creates the heat. 3 Q. Thank you, Mr. Hamilton. 4 Thank you, Your Honor. 5 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Polk. 6 Members of the jury, do any of you have 7 any questions for Mr. Hamilton? 8 Okav. 9 Then, Mr. Hamilton, you will be 10 temporarily excused as a witness at this time. 11 However, you may be recalled. So the rule of 12 exclusion will continue to apply. And that really 13 applies to any of the witnesses, even the ones who would be released completely and then come back 14 into the courtroom. You can't do that. But it 15

The provision is you cannot in any way attempt to communicate with other witnesses about this case or your testimony in any way, to really avoid going to third parties or some other people who might somehow convey this, your testimony or other matters, about the case. So it's really best that you not discuss the case with anybody until it's completely over.

However, as I mentioned before, you can

talk to the lawyers about this as long as other witnesses are not present.

3 Do you understand.

applies to all of the witnesses.

4 THE WITNESS: I do.

5 THE COURT: So you are excused for today. But

6 you may be recalled.

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7 Thank you, sir.

8 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

9 MR. HUGHES: Your Honor, the state calls

10 Amayra Hamilton.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

Ms. Hamilton, if you'd please step to thefront of the courtroom and raise your right hand tobe sworn by the clerk.

15 DIVERA G. HAMILTON,

having been first duly sworn upon her oath to tellthe truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the

18 truth, testified as follows:

THE COURT: Please be seated here at thewitness stand. Would you please begin by statingand spelling your full name.

22 THE WITNESS: Divera G. Hamilton --

THE COURT: Go ahead, Ms. Hamilton.

24 THE WITNESS: D-i-v-e-r-a, Hamilton,

25 H-a-m-ı-l-t-o-n.

THE COURT: Thank you.

And, Mr. Hughes, when you're ready.

MR. HUGHES: Thank you.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MR, HUGHES:

Q. Ma'am, do you also go by the name Amayra

7 Hamilton?

A. I normally go by the name Amayra.

9 Q. Okay. And can you tell us how it is or

10 why it is you go by Amayra if your legal name is --

11 is something else?

12 A. Divera is my birth name. And about 13 13 years ago, I decided to choose my -- to change 14 my daily name to Amayra.

Q. And, ma'am, were you born here in the

16 United States?

17 A. I was born in Holland, The Netherlands, 18 in Europe.

19 Q. And how long did you live in Europe?

20 A. I lived in Europe from -- until 14 years

21 ago except for 8 years that I lived in the

22 Caribbean.

23 Q. And have you had any formal education?

24 A. I was a -- used to be a high -- high

25 school teacher. So I have my degree for high

1 school teaching.

2 Q. And what subjects did you teach in high

3 school?

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4 A. Most of all English.

Q. And how is it that you came to the

6 United States?

7 A. In 1995 I met this gentleman called

8 Michael Hamilton. And two years later, I moved to

9 the United States.

10 Q. And is Michael Hamilton the fellow who

11 just left the courtroom?

A. I saw him in passing.

13 Q. And when did you get married?

A. In 1999. Came to the United States in

15 1997, got married in 1999.

16 Q. And whereabouts in the United States did

17 you first reside when you came?

A. Sedona.

19 Q. At some point, did you come to live at a

20 place called "Angel Valley"?

A. That was in 2002.

Q. And can you tell us how it is you came to

23 Angel Valley.

24 A. In -- when we came in 1997, we -- Michael

25 and I started a small retreat center on the other

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1 side of Sedona. And in 2002 we wanted to make --2 take more advantage of the possibility of people coming to our place, staying with us, which was not completely possible in the place where we used to be. And that's how we came to Angel Valley.

And at some point did you acquire Angel Valley?

- Α. Pardon me?
- 9 Q. Did you purchase Angel Valley?
- 10 Α. Yes, we did.

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- Q. And what were your intentions for the 11 12 property when you purchased it?
 - Α. The intention was to create an environment for people who are looking for -- for personal and spiritual growth and also provide services to support that process for people.
- 17 **Q.** And can you tell us what was on the property when you first purchased the property. 18
 - Well, it had been homesteaded in the beginning of the century. And over time there had been 11 buildings built. It was very laid back, not very well maintained when we got there. So we did a lot of remodeling using the original buildings, taking down four, and building some new cabins.

Q. And which buildings did you take down?

Α. There were four buildings in the floodplain area that we felt was not -- were not in a good -- you know -- good condition to put a lot of effort into remodeling because they had been flooded before. And we did not want to run the risk of another flooding.

Q. And can you tell us, did you and Michael take the buildings down or did you hire a contractor to do that?

Α. At the time for quite -- several years, we had -- we had our own building construction crew.

- Q. Were those employees at Angel Valley?
- Α. Yes.
- 16 **Q.** And what happened to the debris from 17 those cabins that you took down -- or the buildings 18 you took down?

A. Of those buildings anything that looked like it -- it was best to throw it in the dumpster and haul it off, we took there. We may have burned some things at the time, only we have never burned anything that would contain nails or that would contain anything that could be any way harmful. And we never, ever would do that for ceremony.

1 Following October of 2009, were some lawsuits filed against you and Michael and Angel 3 Valley?

> Α. Yes.

5 Q. And can you tell us what Angel Valley -as far as legal entities, is there a company or 7 companies or businesses called "Angel Valley"?

8 Angel Valley is -- the basis of Angel 9 Valley is a ministry, Angel Valley Ministries. And 10 that was incorporated as a 501(C)(3) in 2004. The retreat center itself is a business aspect under 11 12 the ministry. And that is incorporated as an LLC,

14 Q. And following, then, the sweat lodge 15 in 2009, were some lawsuits filed against you and 16 Michael and the different Angel Valley entities 17 you've told us about?

Angel Valley Spiritual Retreat Center.

Α. Yes.

19 Q. And are any of those still pending?

20 Α. The lawsuits are still pending. Yes.

> Q. And did you file any lawsuits?

Α. We filed a lawsuit.

23 Q. And against whom?

> Α. We filed a lawsuit against James Ray.

Q. And is that still pending?

That's still pending. 1 Α.

Q.

in Sedona?

And can you tell me what the philosophies are behind Angel Valley. Why does Angel Valley exist as opposed to some of the other businesses or -- or spiritual centers that may also exist over 5

7 Α. Not necessarily as opposed to. I would 8 say in addition to. Our main -- our main objective 9 is to provide a space and services where people who 10 are searching on a spiritual journey to offer 11 possibilities for people to be with us, to stay 12 with us, to be on -- in nature.

The place is very quiet. It's a beautiful opportunity to be in nature, connect with nature. And through that we feel the connection with nature. They connect with their spirits. They connect with God. Although not everybody wants to call it "God." So it is the -- the No. 1 objective is a spiritual experience.

20 Q. And who is the property open to? Who can 21 attend or come to Angel Valley?

> Α. Any -- any person of any denomination.

And can you tell us, in 2009 do you recall who was working at Angel Valley?

> Α. In 2009? You mean on staff?

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Q. On staff.

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Α. We had one person who did the -- who was the coordinator -- coordinator for our guests. She worked in the office. Ingrid Hardy. We had a chef, Kirstin Johnson. We had our main housekeeper, Fawn Foster. We had a landscaper, Rotillo Vasquez, who was on and off. And he's been not all the time with us.

> Q. And what do you mean by that?

Α. He has also left for a little while for -- he was in New Mexico for a little while, came back, and sometimes goes back. And so the landscaping has been a little --

And then we had some additional people who come in when we were busy, when we would have a larger group, because so few people cannot handle a larger group. So if we would have a larger group, then we would hire additional people.

When you mentioned on staff, are there people who also volunteer, or were -- I should say, were there people in 2009 who volunteered at Angel Valley?

Α. We also have people who volunteered.

24 Q. Can you tell us the sorts of people that 25 would volunteer. And do you remember approximately

how many volunteers you had in 2009?

Α. There may have been about five, some people who stayed shorter and some people who stayed for a period of three months. What sort of people? It's oftentimes people who love to be at Angel Valley, to work on their growth, to work on their process.

And then we make an arrangement that rather than paying, they do work. But the No. 1 prospective is the -- the No. 1 goal is always their growth, their -- their searching, their healing.

Q. And can you tell us the sorts of work or 14 tasks that volunteers performed in 2009.

15 Some help in the kitchen. Some help with 16 landscaping. Some help in housekeeping. Some help 17 in -- depending on what skills they have, some help 18 in maintenance. Some help in the garden -- you 19 know -- the vegetable garden.

20 And how large of a property is Angel

21 Valley?

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Α. It's 70 acres.

23 Q. And can you tell us the facilities that

24 are available to guests. And as you -- as you tell us the facilities, I'm going to place on the

overhead Exhibit 140. And if you can point out

2 some of those exhibits -- or some of those

facilities that are available to people who use the

4 property on Angel Valley. And the screen that's in

front of you, if you touch it, it can -- it will

6 put a mark. Let me put up a color that will

7 hopefully contrast well with it.

Okay. For people who come to Angel

9 Valley, there's individuals and there's groups.

10 Both individuals and groups use the accommodations.

11 The accommodations are located -- this is a guest

12 house. There's cabins here and here. There's also

13 rooms here. Everybody uses the dining room.

14 That's here.

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15 Q. Is there a particular name that you refer 16 to that dining facility as?

> A. We call that the "Yellow House."

Q. Okav.

This accommodation facility we call the 19 Α. 20 "Orange House." Then when we have groups, their

21 main meeting facility is here at Crystal Hall.

22 Sometimes when we have larger groups or when the 23 group wants to do movement, they do it in the Heart

24 Pavilion, which is a large, white -- they call it a

"missionary tent." And then we have --

2 us approximately how big that is.

Α. It is 52 feet in diameter.

And then we have this building here. We call that the "Lighthouse." It is the original

Q. You mentioned a large tent. Can you tell

6 homestead. It's a nice, small building, built of

7 the rocks that were found on the land in the

8 beginning of the last century. And we use that as

9 a meditation place. And we have two healing rooms

10 in there. Those are the accommodations and the

11 facilities that are immediately used.

12 Then we have here the office. And then 13 we have features that are used by all guests but 14 also by day visitors. And two of them are here and 15 here. Our labyrinth, you walk -- that is a 16 meditation tool that is here on this area.

17 There is what we call an "angel wheel." 18 That is a feature based on the ancient sacred 19

geometry symbol of a circle and cross. That has 20 been used in many different traditions. And the

21 Native Americans make a medicine wheel of it. And

22 we make our own variety. We call it an "angel

wheel" because we make connections with the 23

24 different Archangels.

> Q. Can you -- you mentioned that you had --

15 of 77 sheets

- 1 let me clear off these -- these marks. You
- 2 mentioned that since you purchased the property,
- 3 you've put up some structures. Can you tell us the
- structures that you put up.
 - Α. You mean the new structures --
- 6 Q. Yes.

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Α. -- that were built new?

These are those cabins here and those.

9 And then the bathhouse here that has -- each cabin has a bathroom in this bathhouse. There is another 10

- bathhouse here. There is a temporary bathhouse 11
- 12 here that services the rest rooms for the Crystal
- 13 Hall until we have made that into a larger expanded
- 14 building.
 - Q. And were some pump houses built as well?
- 16 Α. And pump houses. Yes. We -- we have
- 17 five wells on the property. We had four of them 18 redone, repaired, whatever needed to be repaired.
- 19 And we built the pump house here where it already
- 20 says, Well P, and says, Well HM, is there -- about
- 21 here.

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- 22 Q. And I'm going to show you what's been
- 23 admitted as Exhibit 796 and ask if you recognize --
 - Α.
 - Q. Can you tell us what's -- what's depicted
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- ın 796.
- 2 Α. That is a well house that we built in 3 2005 and '6, and that is --
- 4 Q. And then I'm showing you what's admitted
 - as 795. Is that the same structure as --
- 6 A. That is the same from a different angle.
- 7 Q. And can you tell us who actually built
- 8 the pump houses on the property.
 - Michael was in charge of the construction crew. And we had people on staff who have been working with us for quite a few years, and they
- 12 would build this.
- 13 Q. And were the pump houses that were
 - built -- were those built by the same materials as
- 15 the cabins that you referred to?
 - A. The pump houses were built in logs. But only those pump houses were built with cedar logs.
- 17
- 18 And only one of the cabins has been built with the
- 19 same cedar logs. The other cabins have been built
- 20 with pine logs that were delivered later after the 21 cedar logs.
- 22 Q. And why, if -- if you know, was only one
- 23 cabin built using these cedar logs?
- 24 Because Michael had ordered these logs
 - which was -- it was kind of a second grade log.

- 1 And we hoped that we would be able to work them
 - nicely. But once we had taken the best out for the
- pump houses and for one cabin, the rest it was just
- not good enough quality to -- to build a cabin
- from. So then we ordered new higher -- higher
- grade, just normal, first-rate logs.
- 7 Q. And what do you mean it wasn't good 8 enough quality?
- 9 The -- the logs would be -- start to 10 twist and start to crack somewhat, which
- 11 first-grade logs would not do.
- 12 And do you know whether those logs were Q.
- 13 treated?

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- 14 A. No. No. Oh. Do I know? Your question 15 is do I know? I know they were not treated. They
- 16 were not treated.
- 17 Q. Okay. Once the structure, for example,
- 18 this pump house which is on 796 and 795, was built,
- 19 after it was physically built, was, then, some sort
- 20 of a stain or a varnish put on the wood?
 - A. Yes. After they are built, there is a
- 22 stain put on the -- on the -- on the exterior and
- 23 also on the interior. But the exterior has a --
- 24 has one that gives more protection to the weather
- 25 than the one we use inside.

- 64
- 1 Q. Okay. Do you know whether any of that
- stain was placed on the logs before the structure
- was built?
- 4 Α. No. Never.
 - Q. Turning back to the map of your property,
- I noticed that there is a pond and a vegetable
- garden.

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- A. Uh-huh.
- 9 Can you tell me when those were put in
- 10 and -- and when they began functioning.
- 11 The vegetable garden was made in 2003.
- 12 And that was the first year. We found that what we
- 13 did in the vegetable garden was not so successful
- because we didn't have a fence around it. And the
- 15 deer loved what we did. So we decided that we had
- 16 to put a fence around it. And since then we have
- 17 used this garden. It's a six-foot fence and three
- 18 foot in the ground because they come from all
- 19 directions.
- 20 And since then we have used the vegetable
- 21 garden. Some years the entire garden because it's
- 22 quite big, and sometimes -- some years we do not
- 23 have the -- the personnel -- the people to do the
- 24 entire garden. So then we do a part of it.
 - And what sort of treatments or chemicals Q.

- 1 do you use on the garden to control pests?
 - A. No chemicals.
- Q. How would you, for example, control -- I
 don't know if you get these in Sedona, but we get
 them over here. How would you control things like
- 6 slugs and snails and that sort of thing that would
- 7 try and eat your plants?
- 8 A. Basically, none. But there -- there --
- in the planting you can choose certain plants that
- 10 attract certain -- attract certain bugs that can
- 11 balance. If you dive into the organic -- we
- 12 have -- the people who would do the gardening did a
- 13 lot of study on how can we do organic farming. And
- 14 there is a lot known on the Internet to find out --
- 15 you know -- what do you do when you have certain
- 16 problems.

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- 17 And I do not have the problem that you 18 indicated. I do not remember that we had a lot of 19 that. But --
 - Q. So you're lucky, then.
 - A. -- it's more something that is small ones sometimes. And sometimes we just say, oh, well. That's what we have to live with. Because we do
 - not want to use chemicals in that organic garden.

 Q. And there is -- the map indicates there
 - 66
- 1 is a pond near the garden. Can you tell us about2 the pond.
- 3 A. Well, the pond. It is -- it's been dug.
- 4 It's not turned into a pond yet. It was dug
- 5 when -- if you see to the right where it says "Star
- 6 Village," this whole entire area -- this entire
- 7 area here is, basically, floodplain. And when we
- 8 had the flood in 1990 -- in 2004, the water came up
- 9 kind of like here. And -- and we wanted to make
- 10 these cabins there, so we raised a platform so that
- 11 it would be out of this entire area, like around
- 12 this.

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- We raised that, but we had to get the dirt from somewhere, so we due here. Out of the
- 15 pond we dug all that dirt to fill up this area.
- 16 And the reason why we wanted to make a pond, not
- 17 only that it will make a nice landscape feature,
- 18 but we also were thinking of if ever we would have
- 19 a wildfire around, wouldn't it be nice to have a
- 20 big body of water on the property that we could use
- 21 for the wildfire and because the helicopters could
- 22 not -- would not be able to scoop out of the creek
- because the creek is not deep enough everywhere.
 Q. Now, on the map there is also indicated
- 25 some -- some features on the far side of the creek.

- 1 Can you tell us what's on the far side of the creek
- 2 starting maybe in this area here?
 - A. Oh, yeah. Okay. Let me first show you.
- 4 The property line goes kind of there and here,
- although it is not completely proportionate. Then
- 6 we have trails. And there is a little trail that
- 7 always washes away when the water comes up. It is
- 8 a trail that people can walk. Yeah. And otherwise
- 9 it's just -- this first piece is a floodplain area.
- 10 The dry creek is coming over there. It runs into
- 11 Oak Creek over there. And it's just wild --
- 12 wilderness, nature, forest land.
- Q. And what -- and what sort of activitiestake place on the -- on the far side or the north
- 15 side of the creek?
- 16 A. Normally there is not much activities 17 taking place.
- Q. And as far as the explanation of the map,
- 19 over here in the top, right-hand corner of the map,20 there is -- there is a number of cabins and a
- 21 teepee. Are those actually physically located on
- 22 the far side of the creek?
- 23 A. No. This part that I'm marking here is
- 24 an enlargement of this part because it was easier
 - to -- if we -- if I enlarged it on this map, I
- 68
- could put names to it and numbers on the cabin,
- 2 which was not very well possible to do that in this
- 3 area.
- 4 Q. And then can I ask you what this
- 5 structure is right in here.
- 6 A. That is the neighboring property. There
- is two parcels of land -- this one ends here --
- 8 that do not belong to Angel Valley's property.
- **Q.** And I'm just going to jump ahead a little
- 10 bit. But since we have the map up, there has been
 - bit. But since we have the map up, there has bet
- 11 some testimony that the Mercers stayed on the
- 12 property or near the property after they --
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. -- stopped working for Angel Valley. Can
 - you show us, if you would, on this map where they
- 16 were living once -- once they weren't full-time
- 17 employees of Angel Valley?
- 18 A. They started living there. They lived
- 19 here in this building. And they started living
- 20 there when they were still employed by Angel
- 21 Valley, but -- that then changed as they were
- 22 there.

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- **Q.** And do you know how long or what months
- 24 or years they lived in that building?
 - A. They -- they moved in there in November

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of 2008, and they left in November of 2009. They lived there for one year.

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Q. And then prior to the Mercers living in that cabin, can you tell us where they would reside when they were on the Angel Valley property if you can see it on this map.

Α. They would have -- for one summer before -- prior to November of 2008, I think from the mid summer on, from July or so until November, they were having a trailer -- camper trailer. And it was here in this area.

Q. Can you tell us what chemicals are used and have been used on Angel Valley's property since you took over the property.

A. That is a very wide question.

Q. Well, let me narrow it down. Let's start 16 17 with -- or do you use any sort of soaps or chemicals in the laundry? 18

Α. We use nonfragrant laundry detergent. And we do not use -- do not use bleach.

Q. And can you tell us the time frame that you had the property that you've -- you've followed that philosophy for your laundry?

Α. Always from the start.

Q. How about in the kitchen? What sort of

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1 soaps are used there?

> Also very, very environmentally -- the detergents that you buy in a health food store.

And how about for weed control on the property? How do you control weeds on the property?

A. No. 1, weed -- or actually, No. 1, there's places where weeds are okay. If the weeds are not okay, we weed. If we need to do something more, like places like the labyrinth -- we just do not want any weeds there -- then we use sometimes a -- we have used two things over time. The one is a -- is kind of a spray that we make out of vinegar, orange essential oil, and soap -peppermint soap. And we spray that on -- on the weeds itself.

And then if we don't have one of these -if we're out of essential oil, so to speak, we use, like, a solution with salt, just regular iodine kitchen salt.

Q. And you mentioned there are areas on the property where you don't mind if there are weeds. Can you point out where some of those areas would be.

You know, the areas here and here. And

then if -- the trails we keep clean by just

weeding, pulling them, the little things, pulling

3 them by hand or with the -- what do you call it?

Is it like a hoe or something?

Α. Yeah. Hoe.

6 Okay. And then how about pest control on 7 the property? Can you tell us the sort of pests that you've had the need to control over the years

9 since you've purchased the property.

10 A. The main pests have been rodents, mouse 11 and rats. Yeah. We're out in the wild. It's a 12 little bit difficult to keep them completely away. 13 We would initially only set traps, and that's 14 usually worked.

15 Once in 2006 we had rats -- rats eating 16 cables in our cars, which gave us a lot of damage. 17 And we had to do something more -- more than just 18 traps. So that is when we started to use some -what we felt the least invasive chemical, if you want, that we could find.

Q. And do you know what those chemicals were?

23 One was these -- these baits. They call Α. it "baits." It was called "Just One Bite," these yellow cookies. And there was -- there is another

product, similar, green, also cookies -- cookies baits. The brand is GT Eaton (sic). And then there is also -- d-CON has these little -- these 3 4 little pellets.

5 Q. And I'm going to put up on the monitor, and ask you to point out which, if any, you've been talking about. Exhibit 882. Do you see the products on the monitor that you've been talking 9 about?

A. Yes. These are -- these are the ones that we used in 2006 in the cars.

Q. Can you tell us what the products are again and point out to each individual one.

14 So this is the -- the vellow. That is the Just One Bite, and these green ones are the GT Eaton baits. And the d-CON pellets are these 17 that is in this little box.

Q. Other than the -- the use of this pesticide or rodenticide on your vehicle, have you used any of those or any other chemicals to control rodents anywhere else on the property?

After the rats were gone -- because at a certain point the plates remained full. So we knew that the problem with the cars should be over. At times when we found places where we found mouse

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- droppings or -- you know -- that you saw that
 something had been there, some rodent had been
 there, we would first set up traps again. And then
 we would at times put the same baits on a plate
 - of them with only the traps.

 And can you tell us what areas on the
 - **Q.** And can you tell us what areas on the property you found the need to do that.
 - A. We would put them on the -- in the crawl spaces of the houses, of the Yellow House or the Orange House. Because the cabins do not have a crawl space.

When we -- when we -- when guests would mention that they would hear something crawling underneath and over their head, so we would, then, put them up on the roof. We had to be careful because the -- also, after the car thing, we decided that we should have cats, several. So we also want our cats not to be eating this. So whenever we use them, we put them in places where there is no access by humans or pets.

- Q. Did you ever have any problem with thecats getting into the poison?
 - A. No.

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- Q. Are there any other pests that you've had
- to use some sort of a natural or a chemical productto control on Angel Valley property?
 - A. Yeah. Ants. Ants are -- ants are there. And when they are in places where they don't bother us, that's fine. But sometimes they are in places, they are in the way. And if we do our best to ask them to leave and they don't, then we would make a spray combination, again, of the essential oil with compost tea.
 - Q. What's compost tea?
 - A. Compost tea is when you -- when you compost, you have this dirty stuff that comes underneath that is usually a little smelly. But it's moisture that comes out of -- it's just in the bottom of your compost can.

And you take that compost tea and then you blend the essential oil with it and then molasses and water. And we would spray that, and that would usually be effective.

- **Q.** And can you tell us some of the places you would spray that sort of product?
- A. The labyrinth, the main trails where people are walking on the trails. The place that we could use it is the angel wheel. But I don't remember if we ever had to.

- Q. I'm sorry. The what -- the what?
- A. The angel wheel.
- **Q.** Okay.
- 4 A. So the place that -- where they're
- 5 utilized by people where they would walk, sit, lay
- 6 down maybe. And then you do not want ants to be
- 7 because these fire ants -- it's the big fire ants.
- 8 That is what we are talking about. Small ants we
- 9 don't do anything with. We just -- you know --
- 10 they are just there.
- Q. Now, we've heard that there are some
 places where people might spend the night,
 essentially, in the desert for Vision Quest. Are

you familiar with where those locations would be?

- A. The Vision Quest locations?
- 16 Q. Yes.
- 17 A. I am very familiar with that.
- 18 Q. Can you tell us, were they generally at
- 19 the same location year after year, or did they --
- 20 did you move from one markedly different place to
- 21 another at some point in time?
- A. In answer to your question, yes. I would use them year after year.
- 24 Q. They didn't -- I'm sorry. Go ahead.
- 25 A. However, every year I was always in

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- 1 charge of the preparation for the Vision Quest.
- 2 And I would every year check all the places whether
- 3 they would be suitable. And if one place -- for
- 4 example, talking about ants. If I would find that
- 5 the ants would have found one location, then that
- would go off my list.
- **Q.** Did you ever spray this -- this compost
- $oldsymbol{8}$ and essential oil mixture on the Vision Quest
- 9 sites?
- 10 A. No, I did not. Because if there was 11 something that made the site not usable, then I 12 would just pick another site.
- Q. Other than the mixture that you've told
 us about with the compost and the essential oils in
 it, have you used anything else to control insects
 on the property?
 - A. Ants. Only once in 2010 we had a worse, big problem with the fire ants because they -- one of the problems is they came inside the cabin. And we felt that we needed to do a little more drastic on that.
- 22 THE COURT: The court reporter --
- 23 MR. HUGHES: Yes, Your Honor.
 - (Pause in proceedings.)
 - THE COURT: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, we

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will take the morning recess at this time. So, of 2 course, remember the admonition. 3 And, Ms. Hamilton, I'll just advise you that you need to abide by the rule of exclusion of witnesses, meaning you cannot discuss the case or your testimony with any other witness. You cannot 7 communicate or attempt to communicate with any 8 other witness in any way about the case. It's just 9 a good idea not to talk to anyone about the case 10 until it's over. However, you can talk to the attorneys as 11 12 long as other witnesses are not present. 13 Do you understand that basic rule? 14 THE WITNESS: I do. 15 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. And we will be 16 in recess. I'm going to be here at the bench a 17 moment. I have some difficulty with my PC, but we 18 will be in recess, then. 19 Please reassemble, ladies and gentlemen, 20 in 15 minutes, which is about five till. 21 Thank you.

Q. Okay. And --

A. In case we have - in case we have ants, we -- the first product we use is diatomaceous earth.

Q. How do you use diatomaceous earth to control ants?

A. It is a powder. It is a fossilized algae, and that's powdered. And then you -- you put that on the - on the ants hill in the opening, and the ants carry it in. And, basically, the working of it is that the earth is make -- blocking their digestive system. And they just won't survive that. But it's -- it's an earth-natural product.

Q. Now, turning to the weeds, did you ever use any landscape fabric or any other nonchemical methods other than pulling weeds to control weeds?

In these places where we have the features were the trails or any area where we cover the original soil with sand, before we put the sand on, we buy this landscaping fabric that we put underneath the sand. It's effective. And we don't have as many weeds when we have that fabric under

Q.

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You mentioned that you have cats on the

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has been sworn, of course.

Mr. Hughes.

(Recess.)

presence of Mr. Ray, the attorneys, the jury.

Ms. Hamilton is back on the witness stand. And she

MR. HUGHES: Thank you.

Q. Mrs. Hamilton, I think when we left off. we were -- I just asked or was about to ask a question about other than this compost tea that you used that had the lemon oil or the orange oil in it. What other chemicals did you use to control ants on the property?

THE COURT: The record will show the

This one time that the fire ants came into a cabin, we used a product called "AMDRO."

Q. And can you spell that for us.

Α. A-M-D-R-O.

> Q. Okay. And do you recall when that was

used? 15

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Α. That was in the summer of 2010.

Q. And whereabouts was that used?

A. Well, one of the cabins somewhere here.

19 Cabin 5 or 6.

20 Q. Do you know whether any other chemicals 21 were used to control bugs on the property?

> Α. No.

23 Q. Do you know whether nonchemical 24 substances, like diatomaceous earth, were used?

Α. Oh. Sorry. Yes. Of course. property. Do you recall when -- when it is -- did

2 the cats show up on their own, or did you go out

3 and get the cats?

the sand.

A. And we brought one cat, and he disappeared. And in 2006 we had a little period without cats. And that's when the pack rats happened. And then we said, this is over. So I went to the Humane Society, and I brought home two cats.

And then one of the people that were working with us said, we need some more cats. I have some extra cats.

I said, okay. Bring two more.

Since then, we have always had four cats.

And then referring to -- you mentioned that some rats or mice had gotten into your vehicles. Do you recall approximately when that was?

Α. That was in October of 2006.

20 Q. And I'm going to put on the overhead 21 what's been marked as Exhibit 882 and ask if you 22 recognize -- if you recognize what's depicted 23 there.

24 Α. I do recognize that. These are two pictures. One was photographed on October 26th.

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1 And on the right side just here you see 26, which was the date that was on the photo itself. And then the time of it as taken by the camera was a couple of hours off. I mean, the time is not exact. But this was on the 26th.

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And then the other photo is -- that's why I've combined them -- was taken on the 28th of the same plate. So after it had stayed there for a day and a half, this is what's left over. Everything is gone almost. And they had brought in more -pieces like this, they brought in the car. We were amazed.

13 Q. And had you been actually driving the 14 car?

No. Because in those days we left the car there to -- to see how we could attack these -these rats. No. So we -- we had two cars. So those days that we were doing this treatment, we used the other car to leave this experiment go there.

Q. And you mentioned that the -- the time was off. Do you know whether the date or the year was accurate or not on the photographs?

A. Yes. 26 said there. And then when you -- I made this combination with the two of them

to see the difference between two, because I took, oh, 20, 30 photos of this -- this thing because it was fascinating. But when I put them together, you could see the difference between them.

For some reason the photo -- the photo itself, the print, showed the date, not the month and the year. I don't know why. But then the -the original photo in my computer shows that it was taken on 2006 -- 2006-10-26. So it can be traced.

10 Q. And I'm going to put up Exhibit 883. 11 These appear to be similar photos. Can you tell us 12 how they're different from 882.

Well, after we had the other -- the other one when the plate was almost empty, we put another plate, filled it again, and wanted to see whether they would come more eating.

You may also see here there is one of the other measures that we took. We'd hang little balls with -- little bags with mothballs in the car. That was what we first tried before we put the cookies in. But then they still kept coming.

And then on 29 -- the photo at the bottom on the 29th, everything was, again, gone and even more branches were brought in. So that -- we did that about for a week. And then at the end of the

1 week, the plate was still -- they wouldn't come and eat them anymore.

And you mentioned -- you used the word 3 4 "cookies." Can you tell us what you mean by using the word "cookie."

Α. Oh. Those things -- oh. I'm sorry.

7 Q. I moved it. I apologize.

8 Α. On the -- on the packages they call them "baits." But, yeah. We use cookies. We call them 10 "cookies."

Turning, then, from the use of chemicals 11 Q. 12 or pesticides, can you tell us, if you recall, when 13 you first had the opportunity to meet the 14 defendant?

15 Α. James Ray?

16 Q. Yes

17 Α. We first met James Ray in August of 2003.

And how is it that -- can you describe 18

19 the circumstances of how it is that you met with

20 Mr. Ray.

21

Α. There was a person in town that we knew.

22 And he kind of -- was kind of like a broker for

23 events. And he called us and he said he had a

24 gentleman from California who was looking for a

25 place to do a sweat lodge and a Vision Quest and

1 could that be done at Angel Valley possibly.

2 And we said, well, let's get together and 3 talk and see what -- what can be done. What are

the requirements? What does -- what does the

5 gentleman want? And -- and could we provide what

he's looking for.

7 Q. And do you remember when it was in 2003 8 that you met the defendant?

9 Α. That was, I think, July 28th or 10 something -- the very end of July.

11 Okay. And at some point after meeting 12 with the defendant, did he take a group of people 13 out to your property that year?

> Α. Yes, he did.

Α.

15 Q. And can you tell us approximately when 16 and for what use the property was put by Mr. Ray in 17 that year?

19 scheduled in the beginning of the first week of 20 November. During that retreat -- November of 2003. 21 During that retreat he wanted to do a Vision Quest 22 and a sweat lodge. So when we decided that we saw

The retreat that he had planned,

23 possibilities of how we could accommodate that, then when we had communication, and then he

eventually came with his group in November.

21 of 77 sheets

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- 1 Do you recall the size of the group in 2 2003 that he brought with him? 3 Yes. The group was 39 participants. 4 And do you know whether -- at the time you -- you met with the defendant at the end of 5 6 July, did you have a sweat lodge that would hold 37 7 participants? 8 Α. 9 10 many people. 11 Q. And did you build a sweat lodge, then, 12
 - I know the answer to the question. No. We did not have a sweat lodge that would hold so
 - prior to October of 2003?
- 13 Α. We did.

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- Q. And who built the sweat lodge in 2003?
- Α. In 2003 we had a group that was doing a retreat. And they built two sweat lodges for their event and took it down when they were done. And this person, he's a local person. He has been
- 19 building very many sweat lodges. 20 And when we needed to -- a new sweat 21 lodge -- a larger sweat lodge than the one we had, 22 because we had a small sweat lodge at the time that 23 was not big enough for James's group, and we asked 24 this person can you help us build that? So our 25 staff built it, basically. But this -- this

- 1 person, he supervised how to do it. He gave us 2 instructions.
- 3 Q. Now, the --
- 4 MR. LI: Your Honor, may I have a quick moment 5 with Counsel, please?
- 6 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
- 7 BY MR. HUGHES: On the map here, it --
- 8 which is Exhibit 140, it shows a sweat lodge. Is
- 9 that where the sweat lodge was built in 2003?
 - No. In 2003 the sweat lodge was in this area here. Sorry. It's a little big. Where it says, "fire pit," that is where we had a small sweat lodge. And we built the larger one for James's group next -- right next to it.
- 15 And can you show us approximately where 16 the Vision Quest sites were for 2003.
 - In 2003 we made Vision Quest sites, several of them here in this area and in this area among the trees and -- and some here and some here. That's -- that's -- and then a few here. That was
- 21 in 2003. 22 Q. And other than the sweat lodge and the Vision Quest, did Mr. Ray and his participants stay 23 24 the week at Angel Valley in 2003?
 - In 2003 the group stayed in Enchantment

- 1 Resort. And they only came to Angel Valley for
- 2 the -- first the sweat lodge and after that the
- 3 Vision Ouest.
- 4 Q. So the Vision Quest was conducted after
- the sweat lodge in 2003? 5
 - Α. Yes.
- 7 Do you recall in 2004 whether the
- 8 defendant came again with his group of
- 9 participants?

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- 10 Α. He came again with his group of participants. 11
 - Q. And what month was it in 2004?
- 13 Α. In 2004 it was in October, a little 14 earlier than the one in 2003.
- 15 Q. And what do you mean by "a little
- 16 earlier"?
- 17 Α. Only once James came -- James came to 18 Angel Valley in November. And I liked being 19 earlier because then we have -- in October we have 20 nicer weather than in November. It's kind of 21 getting cool.
- 22 Q. And do you recall how many participants
- 23 came in 2004?
 - Α. Only 14.
- 25 Q. And did they stay the entire week?

Α. They stayed the entire week with us.

- 2 Q. And you mentioned the Vision Quest was
- 3 after the sweat lodge in '03. Was that the same in
- 4 2004?

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- Α. That was the same in 2004.
- 6 And can you point out for us, if you
- 7 would, where the sweat lodge was that -- that was
- 8 used in 2004.
- 9 Α. In 2004 we used -- we used the same 10 structure that we had built in 2003 in this -- in 11 this area here by the fire pit.
- 12 Q. Okay. And I have to warn you. When you
- 13 touch on the screen --
- 14 Α. Yeah. I see.
- 15 Q. -- the mark doesn't exactly go where you
- 16 touch.
- 17 Α. I know. I noticed.
- 18 Q. Okay. And can you tell us whether in
- 19 2005 Mr. Ray used your facilities.
 - Α. He did.
 - Q. And what month was that?
- 22 Α. That was in -- that's also in October.
- 23 Are we in October now for the duration Q.
- 24 for each year?
 - No. Α.

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- 1 **Q.** Okay,
- 2 A. No.
- **Q.** Well, then let's -- let's -- in 2005 do
- 4 you recall how many participants Mr. Ray brought
- 5 with him?6 A. Forty-nine.
- **Q.** And did they stay on the property the
- 8 whole week?
- 9 A. They did.
- 10 Q. And was the Vision Quest before or after
- 11 the sweat lodge?
- 12 A. In 2005 the Vision Quest was before the
- 13 sweat lodge.
- **Q.** And can you point out for us where the --
- 15 that sweat lodge ceremony was held?
- 16 A. That is in -- you see here where it says,
- 17 sweat lodge? That is where the sweat lodge has
- 18 been ever since 2005.
- 19 Q. And as far as you can tell, do the sweat
- 20 lodges from 2005 on appear to have been built in
- 21 approximately the same spot each year?
- 22 A. Not approximately. Exactly the same
- 23 spot.
- **Q.** Okay. And how is it that they were built
- 25 in exactly the same spot, that you know that?
- 9
- 1 A. Because in 2005 after we moved from the 2 area here to here, after the flood we had in 2004,
- 3 the winter of 2004, 2005, the -- the sweat lodge
- 4 has a hole in the middle where the stones go in.
- 5 And that hole was made in 2005 and never changed.
- 6 Q. Do you remember who dug that pit?
- 7 A. I -- that pit was dug by the people who
- 8 in 2005 erected the structure.
- **Q.** Do you know prior to 2005, were tarps
- 10 used on the sweat lodge?
- 11 A. Plastic tarps you mean?
- 12 Q. Yes.
- 13 A. No.
- **Q.** And starting in 2005, do you know whether
- 15 tarps were used?
- 16 A. In 2005 for the first year that we used
- 17 for the soft covering of brown vinyl.
- **Q.** Okay. And were any other tarps, other
- 19 than that big, brown, vinyl tarp, used in 2005?
- 20 A. Not that I remember.
- **Q.** And did you have some concerns in 2005 as
- 22 to whether that vinyl tarp might be getting hot
- 23 during the ceremony?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. Do you know whether that tarp in 2005 got

- 1 hot during the ceremony?
 - A. I checked it because I wanted to be sure.
- 3 And it did not to my feeling.
 - Q. And how did you check it?
 - A. I was -- I was around towards the end of
- the ceremony. And I -- so I had time to feel what
- 7 it would feel like.
 - Q. And then turning ahead to 2006 --
- 9 A. Uh-huh.
- 10 Q. -- can you tell us whether the defendant
- **11** used your property in 2006.
 - A. Yes, he did.
- **Q.** And for the entire week?
- 14 A. For the entire week.
- 15 Q. Which month was it used?
- 16 A. That was in August.
- 17 Q. And can you tell us where -- how many
- 18 participants came in 2006.
 - A. In 2006 there were 40.
- **Q.** And you may have already mentioned this.
- 21 But can you tell us where the sweat lodge was built
- 22 in 2006?
- 23 A. Same place where it says, sweat lodge.
- 24 Q. Was the sweat lodge after 2005 ever built
- 25 anywhere else than in that location?
- - A. No. It stayed in the same location.
 - Q. And in 2007 can you tell us how many
 - 3 participants the defendant brought with him?
 - A. Sixty-two.
 - **Q.** And in addition to participants on these
 - 6 years, did Dream Team members or other staff
 - 7 members also come?
 - A. Yes, they did.
 - Q. Do you recall how many people all
 - 10 together, then, came in 2007?
 - 11 A. In 2007 there were -- I have a note with
 - 12 me. Can I give you exact numbers? Could I look at
 - 13 those?
 - **14 Q.** Did you make some notes that would help
 - 15 refresh your recollection as to how many
 - 16 participants and other people were present?
 - 17 A. I would like to give as precise as
 - 18 possible if I can. I can -- I can do it without
 - 19 the notes too.
 - 20 Q. Would looking at your notes refresh your
 - 21 memory?
 - 22 A. It would.
 - 23 MR. HUGHES: Your Honor, may the witness refer
 - 24 to her notes?
 - 25 THE COURT: Mr. Li?

- 1 MR. LI: No objection.
- 2 THE COURT: Yes.
- 3 THE WITNESS: So your question regarding 2007
- 4 was how many --
- 5 Q. BY MR. HUGHES: Yes. How many people all together came? Do you recall? 6
- 7 There were 62 participants and -- retreat participants, and he had 9 staff. 8
- 9 Q. In what month was the defendant there in
- 10 2007?
- 11 Α. In September.
- 12 Q. And did the defendant come back, then,
- ın 2008? 13
- Α. 14 He did.
- 15 Q. And what month did he come back?
- Α. 16 Also in September.
- 17 Q. And do you recall how many participants
- came with him in 2008? 18
- 19 Α. Also 62.
- 20 Q. Okay. And do you recall how many staff
- came in 2008? 21
- 22 Α. There was all together 13 staff.
- 23 Q. And then in 2009 we'll -- we'll be asking
- 24 you some questions about 2009 in specific. But do
- 25 you recall how many participants came in 2009?

- Α. Fifty.
- Q. And how many staff? 2
- 3 Α. Fourteen.
- 4 And for purposes of the record, for a
- 5 couple of those numbers I saw you looking down.
- 6 Were you looking at the same notes you referred to
- 7 earlier?

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- 8 A. Yes, I did.
- 9 As far as the running of the affairs at
- Angel Valley, did your role in running Angel Valley 10
- 11 change at some point over the years since you
- purchased the property? 12
- Α. 13 It did.
- 14 Q. And can you tell us, first of all, for
- 15 the first years that you had the property what your
- 16 role was at Angel Valley.
 - I am very much a hands-on person. So in
- 18 the first two years, I was involved in almost
- 19 everything. As we were growing, in 2008, we
- 20 started -- actually, 2007, late in 2007, we hired a
- 21 general manager. My tasks became less hands on.
- 22 He left in 2009 -- at the end -- at the end
- 23 of 2009. So after that my function became more
- 24 hands on again.
- 25 And can you tell us who the manager was

- that you hired in 2007. 1
 - Α. Gary Palisch.
 - Q. And how is it that he came to Angel
- Valley?

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- 5 Α. I had met him, and we resonated, and he
- had marketing experience. And that was something
- 7 that we really needed. So first he came on as a --
- almost like a volunteer. But very soon he became
- 9 more like a paid consultant. And that kind of grew
- 10 into becoming general manager.
 - Q. And do you recall when in 2007
- 12 Mr. Palisch took over as general manager?
- 13 Α. In September --
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 Α. -- right before James Ray's retreat.
- 16 Q. And prior to Mr. Palisch taking over,
- 17 you've told us what your roles were at Angel
- 18 Valley. Can you tell us what your husband,
- 19 Michael's, role was.
- 20 Α. Michael was more overseeing. He did --
- he did -- he was in charge of most of the 21
- 22 construction. And Michael is more the person who
- 23 works with the philosophy. And he takes the first
- 24 steps to set policies. And usually then we discuss
- things, whether we feel good about it.
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- Q. And did his role change at some point,
- then, after Mr. Palisch took over?
 - Α. Yes.
- 4 Q. And can you tell us what his day-to-day
- role, then, became after Mr. Palisch took over.
- He was focusing most of all on the 6
- 7 property part of it, less with the retreat center.
- Because the general manager role was for the
- 9 retreat center. So we -- we separated the
- 10 activities more than it had been before.
 - Q. And how long did Mr. Palisch stay on at
- 12 Angel Valley as the general manager?
- 13 He handed in his resignation in November
- 14 of 2008. And then he worked another six weeks to
- finish off things that had been pending that he
- 16 felt like it would be good if he would bring it to
- 17 further completion.
- 18 Q. While Mr. Palisch was the general
- 19 manager, did you take a -- you yourself take an
- 20 active role in the sweat lodge ceremonies in 2007?
- 21 A. In 2007 I took a very minimal role. It 22 was most of all sharing with Gary what previous
- 23 experiences had been so that --
- 24 Q. And -- and let me ask you this: Did 25 you -- did you go down and observe the ceremonies
- Page 93 to 96 of 306

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- 1 going on after Mr. Palisch took over in 2007?
- 2 I came by to observe for a little while.
- 3 Q. And what do you mean by "a little while"?
- 4 During the sweat lodge ceremony, I came 5 by, was there about 15 minutes probably. After the 6 ceremony I was there another 20 minutes.
 - Q. And how about in 2008?
- 8 A. In 2008 I was not there at all. I was in 9 my office.
- 10 Q. Okay. And do you know what Michael's
- 11 role, then, was in 2007 and 2008? While
- 12 Mr. Palisch was running the -- the general manager
- duties for the Angel Valley property, what was 13
- 14 Michael doing day to day?

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- 15 Your question is -- because Gary Palisch 16 never was running the Angel Valley property. That 17 was Michael's task.
- 18 Q. Okay. Well, can you explain the 19 difference, then.
- 20 Α. Because the retreat center deals with 21 guests that are coming in -- individual guests, 22 retreat group, group retreats. But anything that 23 had to do with the property, with the buildings,
- 24 anything like that, that was -- that was what
- 25 Michael -- Michael did. And that was where Gary
 - Palisch was not involved in.
- 2 Do you know where the blankets and tarps 3 that were used on the sweat lodge structure in 2007 4 were stored after the end of each sweat lodge 5 ceremony?
 - Α. After the end of each sweat lodge ceremony, they were stored here in the well house that was located where I just indicated and that you showed before on the picture.
- 10 I'm going to show you again what's marked 11 as exhibit and admitted as 796. Is that the -- the 12 well house or the pump house that you've been 13 referring to?
- 14 Α. That is the pump house where the 15 coverings were stored. Yes.
- 16 And do you know where the coverings, the 17 tarps and the blankets, were stored at the end of
- the 2008 sweat lodges? 18
- 19 A. I do.
 - Q. Okay. And where were they stored?
 - Α. In the same pump house.
- 22 Q. And how is it that you know where the
- 23 coverings were stored?
- 24 That's where I saw them. I've never seen them anywhere else. And that is where we had 25

- agreed with housekeeping that that's the place for the blankets.
- 3 Q. And how were they stored? Were there racks on the walls or boxes on the floor? How were 5 they stored?
- 6 Α. We had one big table there behind the --7 the pump house had these pumps in the middle. So we had a big table behind that. And that's where 9 the blankets were stored off the floor. Because we 10 wanted to make sure if ever the pumps would do some 11 leaking that the blankets would not get wet.
- 12 Q. I'm showing you Exhibit 797.
- 13 Α. Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. Do you recognize that document?
- 15 Α.
- 16 Q. What is 797?
- 17 Α. 797 is a picture of the interior of the 18 pump house. And in the middle you see these big 19 tanks. That's -- that's all for the pump. And so 20 they cannot be moved. And then the table that is 21 behind there, that's where the blankets would be 22 stored.
- 23 Q. And did -- who took the photographs, if 24 you know, that is Exhibit 797?
- 25 I do know who took it. I took this

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- photograph.
- 2 Q. And why is it that you took this 3 photograph?
 - In March of this year, we were approached by Detective Diskin. And he asked us about -about the condition in the pump house and about the use of any pesticides or insecticides we had ever had.
- 9 And I offered him to -- I asked him, do 10 you want me to take some pictures, then you can see 11 what it looked like? Yes. It is later. But at 12 least you can see what it looked like, how we used 13 to do it. I can show you. This is the best way 14 you can do other than just talking about it.
- 15 Did you have any pictures on your computer or your camera that had been taken in 16 17 October -- or around October of 2009?
 - Α. That were --
- 19 In other words, as far as you know, are 20 there any -- are there any photographs of the pump
- 21 house from 2009?
 - A. No --
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 -- I didn't. If I had had them, then I would have given them.

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- 1 And you mentioned you were asked about 2 the use of pesticides or poisons.
- 3 Α. Uh-huh.

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- Q. Do you know whether any pesticides were ever used in or around this pump house?
- Over time there have been moments that we 7 have used these cookies. And then when we would get rid of the -- rid of the rodents. Then we 8 9 would stop using them. But I cannot tell you 10 exactly when in these five years since we've had 11 the pump houses there when we would have them out 12 there or not.
- 13 Q. Do you know who put the poison down?
- 14 Α. Do you mean -- do you mean the cookies?
 - Q. In -- in the pump house --
- 16 Α. Okav.
- 17 Q. -- these cookies. Who --
- 18 Α.
- 19 Q. -- who placed the poison, if you know,
- 20 over the years in the pump house?
 - That would depend -- probably housekeeping, but not always. It can always -- it
- can also have been sometimes -- housekeeping would 23
- 24 usually find -- it would usually be the first
- 25 person who would say, oh. There's -- there's -- I
 - 102
- 1 find droppings or I find something has been eaten.
- 2 So that would usually be the person, then, to take
- 3 action.

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- 4 Q. Okay. And you say "usually." Is it --
- 5 can I infer from your answer that you didn't put
- the poison down yourself? 6
 - Α. I did not.
- 8 From time to time, though, would you go Q. 9 into the pump house and see that poison had been
- placed in there? 10
 - A. I have seen it. It's not -- I didn't --
- 12 would not go there to check whether poison was
- 13 being placed. But we also stored some other things
- 14 in there -- ropes and stuff that belonged to the
- 15 teepees that we used to have at some point.
- 16 So I would sometimes be in the pump house
- 17 to -- for some reason. And over the years I have
- 18 seen a few times that it was there. But usually
- 19 it's not.
- 20 Q. And can you tell us when the last time it 21 is that you recall seeing poison in this pump
- 22 house.
- 23 Α. Maybe 2007, 2008.
- 24 Q. And you mentioned cookies. Can you tell
- 25 us what -- what it is you saw that made you think

- 1 it was poison that was in there.
- 2 These -- these yellow -- these yellow
- cookies that we had on the picture before that we
- 4 also used at the time that we did it in the car.
 - Now, I'm going to show you what's
- 6 admitted as Exhibit 798 --
- 7 Α. Uh-huh.
 - Q. -- and ask if you recognize that
- photograph.
 - Α. Yes.
 - Q. And what is 798?
- 12 Α. I took that photo to show you that if we
- 13 did it in the pump house, this is how we would do
- 14 it.

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- 15 Q. And do you know whether each time you
- came in the -- the cookies or the poison was always
- 17 on the same type of plate?
 - Α. No. I don't know.
- 19 Q. Was it your intention in this photo to
- 20 suggest that it was always the same plate that was
- 21 underneath that chair?
- 22 Α. Maybe not the exact plate. I wanted to
- 23 show that we would always put it on a plate.
 - And then showing you what's been admitted
- as Exhibit 799, do you recognize that photograph?

 - Α. I do.
 - Q. And what is 799?
- 3 Α. That is a close up of the previous photo.
- 4 Q. And when you took these photos, were
- the -- this poison -- was it already in the pump
- 6 house?
- 7 Α.
- 8 Q. Can you tell us how it is that the poison
- came to be on the plate and in the pump house for
- 10 this photograph?
- 11 Because the question that we got from
- 12 Detective Diskin was, what did you do over the
- 13 years if you had a problem with rats? Well,
- 14 usually we did not -- you know -- do much. And the
- 15 problem has never been big other than the one in
- 16 the car.
- 17 So what we did over the years -- one of
- 18 the things that we did over the years was this,
- 19 this only now and then. There were -- in periods
- 20 that we did nothing, well there was nothing much to
- 21 show you.
- 22 And do you happen to know what the name
- 23 is for the -- the poison that's depicted in these
- 24 photographs?
 - Yeah. That is Just One Bite. Α.

- 1 Q. You mentioned that you kept material for
- 2 some teepees also in that room?
- 3 Α. We did.
- Q. Can you tell us when it was that you were using teepees on the property.
- 6 Α. We used teepees on the property from 2003 7 to 2007.
- 8 Q. And what would you use the -- the teepees
- 9 for?

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- 10 Α. Let me correct that. We used many teepees from 2003 to 2007. We -- we just had only 11 12 one or two teepees left in 2009.
- 13 Okay. Can you show us on the map, if you 14 would, where it is that the teepees were located ın 2009. 15
- 16 Α. In 2009 we had two teepees left. And one 17 was over there and one was over there.
 - Now, the first one you indicated, you testified a few minutes ago that that area was a raised area to keep it up out of flooding?
 - Α. Yes.
- 22 Q. Do you know about how high the -- the
- 23 area was raised off the ground?
- 24 Well, on the north side, of course, it runs into the hills. The property from here goes 25
 - downhill, from here downhill. So this side of the
- 2 circle is level. And then it continues to be
- 3 level. On this side it is up about -- about
- 4 6 foot. Something like that.
- 5 Q. Let me show you what's been admitted as
- 6 Exhibit 141. Do you recognize that photograph?
- 7 Α. I do.
- 8 Q. And do you know who took 141?
- 9 Α.
- 10 Q. And can you tell us in general what's
- 11 depicted in Exhibit 141.
- 12 On this photo -- this photo was taken
- 13 from the road. And -- and here you see the
- vegetable garden. Here you see the sweat lodge. 14
- 15 And it was in 2000 -- well, all those years because
- 16 the location is the same.
- 17 Q. Do you know what year you took this
- photo? 18
- 19 Α.
- 20 Q. Okay. And do you know when in 2009 you
- 21 took the photo?
- 22 Α. I took this photo on October 8.
- 23 Q. And do you know what time of the day?
- 24 Α. At 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon.
- 25 Q. Okay. And I'm sorry I interrupted you.

- 1 Can you tell us what else we can see in the
- photograph.
- 3 Α. Then we were just talking about teepees.
- 4 Over here just above this bush, you see the -- the
- peak of the teepee, the one teepee that's also on
- this map. And then this and this are the two
- 7 cabins -- guest cabins that are on that plateau.
- And you talk -- you asked about the raising. If
- 9 you see this line here, over here you see how it
- 10 comes up -- how it's covered.
 - Okay. Let me take that off and zoom in a Q.
- 12 little bit.

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- 13 Α. Yes.
- 14 Q. Is -- is this mounded area, then, inside
- 15 the circle -- is that the area that was lifted up
- 16 when you dug out the pond?
 - Α. Yes.
 - Q. Mrs. Hamilton, do you know whether the
- 19 tarps themselves were changed or replaced from year
- 20 to year after sweat lodge ceremonies?
 - I did not completely get your question.
- 22 Q. Were the tarps that were used -- well,
- 23 first let me ask you, were the -- did you -- did
- 24 you use different tarps each time you would have a
- 25 sweat lodge ceremony on your property?

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- If you are referring to the covering of 2 the sweat lodge, the majority of the covering was
- 3 not tarps. But is your question --
- 4 Q. Well, I want to --
 - Α. -- specifically tarps?
- 6 Q. I want to go sort of piece by piece.
- 7 Α. Okav.
- 8 Q. Whenever it would be that you would
- 9 decide to have a sweat lodge ceremony on your
- 10 property --

of that.

- Α. Uh-huh.
- 12 Q. -- did you or other Angel Valley people 13 go out and purchase all new materials to construct 14 the structure?
- 15 MR. LI: Your Honor, objection on foundation.
- 16 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 17 You may answer that if you have knowledge 18
- 19 THE WITNESS: We did not replace them all.
- 20 BY MR. HUGHES: Did you ever replace any, Q.
- 21 if you know? 22 Yes, we did. At times when something was
- 23 not -- was damaged after a sweat lodge ceremony, we
- 24 will throw it away. And then we would replace it
- by something new for the next one.

Q. And what do you mean by something beingdamaged?

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- A. The covering -- the blankets that we used were usually used blankets. They don't have terrific long life anymore maybe. So when there is holes falling in or when they tear because they have been behind a stick or something, we would just throw them away and we would replace them by something else.
- Q. And do you know where the rocks came from that were used -- well, let me ask you this: Did the rocks, if you know, come from the same location for each of the years that you would do sweat lodge ceremonies at Angel Valley?
- A. All the rocks that have ever been picked for different sweat lodge ceremonies were found along the creek. It's all rocks there. And that's --
- Q. Can you show us on the map. Was there a
 particular place that you would gather rocks or
 have rocks gathered?
- A. Our landscapers would gather the rocks.
 And they would find them all over this whole area
 along the creek. And they would naturally pick
 them where they were the closest and they didn't

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- 1 have to carry them so far.
- 2 MR. LI: Your Honor, this is a foundational 3 issue.
- 4 THE COURT: Sustained.
- **Q.** BY MR. HUGHES: Did you see your
- 6 landscapers gathering rocks?
 - A. I have seen them gathering them. Yes.
- Q. And where is it that you saw them? And
 can you tell us what years it is that you've seen
 your landscapers gathering rocks.
 - A. I can't tell you exactly what -- which year. I have seen it over the years several times.
 - Q. Did you ever see over the years landscapers gathering rocks from a different location than the one you've indicated on the map?
 - A. No. Because there was plenty there.
 - **Q.** Okay. Turning now directly to 2009, do you recall when it was that the defendant arrived on your property? And if it would help --
 - A. I think October 1st.
 - Q. -- I have what's marked, not admitted, just a calendar, if you will, a blank calendar for October of '09, if that would help you remember what day of the week.
 - A. On October 2nd, on the Friday.

- 1 Q. Okay. And did he arrive by himself or
- 2 did he bring people with him on Friday?
- A. I have not seen how he arrived. He would drive his own car with his personal assistant.
- 5 There was -- that same day his main staff would
- 6 arrive. But before that people of his volunteer
- 7 team would already have arrived. And they would
- 8 already arrive on the 3rd. And -- and they would
- 9 do other preparations for the retreat before the
- 10 group would arrive.

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- Q. And had you and your employees at Angel
 Valley been doing preparation also in advance of
 the defendant's arrival at Angel Valley?
 - A. Oh, yeah. A lot.
- Q. Can you tell us what it is -- what
 preparation goes into -- or went into in this
 particular case preparing for the defendant to
 arrive. And by "preparation," I'm asking what are
 the physical tasks that were done on the property,
 - not necessarily why you were doing the task.

 A. Yeah. The -- okay. That is a -- that's a lot. One preparation is to set up the meeting space for them so that they -- they have it ready to go. And we would prepare it upon the
- 25 instructions that we would receive. how many

seats, how the chairs are arranged. We would -the podium, a special chair for the speaker, James
in this case.

We would put up tables in the back of that room so that any material that James would bring could be presented. There was — James would also use the Heart Pavilion for his activities. So

8 we would set that up the way we were -- we got

9 information that it -- he wanted it set up.

We would set up the — all the accommodation, which was a lot of extra work because our regular accommodation is less than the size of the group that James would normally bring. So we would set up extra tents. We would have some of the cabins that normally with two beds, we would put in an extra bed. We would bring in extra toilets so that with his larger group everything would run smooth.

We would set up by the dining room.

Because our dining room capacity is 40ish. But if need be 50ish. But with 70 people the dining rooms aren't big enough. So we would put up a big tent so that people could eat outside. With the good weather that was very doable.

Of course, in the kitchen there was lots

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- of preparation a week in advance for a large group
- 2 like that. We would, of course, put things in
- motion for the sweat lodge eventually. I would
- personally always be involved all -- every year in
- the preparation for the Vision Quest. I would
- 6 always spend almost two full days going out to make
- 7 all the sites.

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- Q. Did you mark or tag the site somehow?
- 9 Α. The sites. They were all -- they had to
- 10 be in the shade. I didn't want them to sit on the
- 11 rocks. So they would always be under a big tree,
- 12 not on the rocks, not on the slope, not where it's
- wet. Not -- if there was an ant hill, I would 13
- 14 change it to a different location.
- 15 They had to be far enough apart so that 16 people would not see each other. And yes. They
- 17
- were instructed to stay in the same place. But --18 you know -- they were not supposed to see each
- 19 other. So they had to be out -- far enough apart.
- 20 And as the groups grew in 2007 and 2008
- 21 and 2009, especially 2007 and 2008 were large, I
- 22 had to cover a big territory. Sometimes I found
- 23 that a place that was good last year was not so
- 24 good this year anymore because maybe some branches
- 25 had broken. Oftentimes these are places where the

 - animals come and lay, so I would use these places.
 - And then on the day when the Dream Team
- 3 members would arrive, then I would go out with
- 4 them, walk all the sites, make sure that everybody
- 5 was agree that this was a good site. And then I
- would make maps so that every site was numbered. I 6
- 7 would make a map so that the -- the different
- 8 sections -- people -- there would be people --
 - The map is still here; right? So --
- 10 Q. Can you show us on the map where it is 11
- that you had the Vision Quest sites in 2009.

Here was a large area. Here was an -- an

- 13 area where some people were. Here also a few.
- 14 Here were a few or several. And then down here,
- 15 that goes off the map. That would also be.
- 16 So we would divide the different sections
- 17 so that different Dream Team people would have --
- 18 would take out a little group in that evening. And
- 19 they had to know their area because the people
- 20 would be set out in the dark. So they had to
- 21 really be very familiar with the place so that they
- 22 in the dark could find sites that all had the
- 23 number on it.
- 24 Q. And what day of the week, if you recall,
- did you take the Dream Team members out to show

- 1 them where the Vision Quest sites were located?
- 2 That was on -- on the day before they
- would arrive. And I think on this -- at this time
- 4 it was October 1st.
 - Q. And what day of the week was that?
- 6 That was a Thursday. I hope I have these
- 7 days exactly correct. But it was the day -- two
- 8 days before the arrival of the group.
- 9 And do you recall what day the
- 10 participants were supposed to start arriving?
 - On Saturday -- Saturday night.
- 12 Q. Okay. And you mentioned that the
- 13 defendant arrived on Friday?
 - Α. Yeah.
 - Q. And is it your recollection, then, that
- 16 the Dream Team members or some of them arrived the
- 17 day before Mr. Ray?
 - Α. All the Dream Team members were there
- 19 before Mr. Ray was there.
- 20 And let me ask you. You mentioned that
- 21 tents were set up. Can you -- and let me clear out
- 22 these marks on the map. Can you show us where the
- 23 tents were set up and if you remember how many
- 24 tents.
 - Α. In this area -- I'm sorry. In this area,
- that is an area under the trees along the trail
- over there -- you know -- opposite the cabins.
- That's where we had made nice, flat tent sites.
- And we had a -- in 2009, we had, I think, six tents
- there for each. Six or seven. Each had tent two
- 6 beds in there.
- 7 Q. And can you tell us about how big the
- 8 tents were.
- 9 Α. The tents were 10-by-10 I think.
- 10-by-10 or 12-by-12. 10
- 11 Were the tents something that were used
- 12 every year at Angel Valley, or did you rent these
- 13 tents?

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- Α. No. We had bought them.
- 15 Q. Okay. And where were the tents stored
- 16 when they weren't being used?
- Oh. They were over here. You see that 17
 - brown square? That is -- that's -- we use that
- 19 building for storage of any furniture or any pieces
- 20 that we do not use all the time. The tents were in
- 21 there.
- 22 Q. You mentioned that you had set up tents
- 23 along this pathway. Are there bathroom facilities
- 24 over in that area also?
 - The -- well, normally we would have in

- the bathrooms -- in the bathhouses two people per
- 2 bathroom. We would now have more people per
- 3 bathroom, and we would place extra toilets. We
- 4 would rent extra toilets here. And I don't know
- exactly which year we -- we rented how many
- 6 toilets, where we exactly placed them.
- 7 Q. These cabins that you've shown us in this8 area -- do they have bathrooms in them?
 - A. These do not.
- **10 Q.** Okay.

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- 11 A. These -- the occupants of these cabins go 12 into these two bathrooms.
 - Q. And do these cabins that you've shown us in that area -- do they have running water in the cabins?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. You mentioned -- or I think you're
 18 implying that some cabins did have the bathrooms or
 19 running water. Can you show us which cabins had a
 20 bath or running water in them.
 - A. Here in the -- in the Orange House we have full bathrooms here. Those rooms here at the -- at the end of the dining room, we have -- and I'm not -- and I'm not sure whether we used them for -- yeah. We did.

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- In -- we have -- we have a room here in this one office building. And we have also used that year in 2009 the two healing rooms that are here in the Lighthouse. We used them to -- for -- for staff of James Ray to stay.
- Q. And can you recall where Mr. Ray stayedthat week?
 - A. He stayed in the last room that is here at the end behind the dining room.
- Q. And is that a room that's built into thisYellow House?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And can you tell us where the meals wereserved during the week of 2009 Spiritual Warrior.
 - A. Okay. The meals -- the meals were served in the dining room. So this -- no. This part is the dining room. We have the dining room, one guest room, a serving room, and a kitchen in this block. And that's where the -- the meals were served.
- 20 served.
 21 And then people could sit either inside
 22 or on the terrace or in this extra tent that we had
 - set up.

 Q. And were mealtimes -- did -- did people
- Q. And were mealtimes -- did -- did peopleall eat at the same time, or could they come and go

- 1 during the day to have, for example, lunch or to
- have dinner?

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- A. Not for the main meals. The main meals
 are exactly on time. People could come into the
 dining room to pick a snack or to drink or
 something, but not for the main meals. Main meals
 were all eaten together.
 - **Q.** And how were snacks and drinks dispensed that week in the dining hall?
 - A. We have -- there is a counter that has containers with drinks and containers with snacks. And these were the things that were all requested by James's staff beforehand. So then our chef and James Ray's staff would go over the meals and what snacks they wanted. And we would keep an eye on whether the snacks remained filled so that people could take it when they needed it.
 - Q. And can you tell us what role you were playing now in 2009. You mentioned what you had done before Mr. Palisch came and what you did while he was there. Tell us what role you were playing during that week of 2009.
 - A. In 2009 I was supervising everything. I was -- of course, I was doing the Vision Quest, as I said, which I had done every year. But I was

- coordinating, helping -- assisting with the guest
 coordinator. I was supervising the kitchen. I was
 supervising the housekeeping.
 - I was supervising the whole thing because -- well, every year. But in 2009 maybe even more so.
- We -- we always wanted to make James's retreat, but anybody's retreat, the most successful it could possibly be for the part that we were contributing.
- Q. And can you tell us what role Michael,your husband, was doing that week.
 - A. That week he was -- he was mainly continuing doing the things that he's working on. He was not so involved with the group. He had been -- beforehand he would -- before they arrived, he would be communicating. But during the week he was not so involved in the -- in the daily going on.
 - **Q.** And do you remember when it was that the coverings were first placed on the sweat lodge that week?
 - A. On Wednesday.
 - Q. And do you remember who put the coverings
- **25** on?

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- A. Ted and Debbie Mercer.
- **Q.** And then moving specifically to the day
- 3 of the sweat lodge ceremony, do you recall when
- 4 participants started arriving down at the lodge
- 5 itself?

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- 6 A. They arrived there around quarter past
- 7 2:00.
- **Q.** And how is it that you know about when
- 9 they were arriving?
- 10 A. Because I had been -- I had just been
- 11 doing a final check a little after 2:00, because I
- 12 knew they would be coming any minute. Just a final
- 13 check whether everything was okay. Checked with
- 14 Ted and Debbie, is the fire going well? Yes. Are
- 15 you ready for them to come? And yes.
- 16 Everything -- everything was good.
- 17 Q. And by your check, did you walk or -- or
- 18 maybe take a golf cart, then, down to the sweat
- 19 lodge?

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- 20 A. I would not only move around the property
 - in my golf cart. Yes. And then when I am there in
- 22 a place where I want to check more than just from
- 23 my seat, then I walk.
- **Q.** Can you give us an idea on this map --
- 25 and I realize it's not to scale. But can you give
 - us an idea of the distances from -- that some of
- 2 the items on the -- on the map are depicted. How
- 3 far apart are things on this property?
- 4 A. You mean driving? You mean in distance
 - or in time?
- **Q.** In other words, are we looking at -- say,
- 7 from the sweat lodge to the Crystal Hall, is that
- 8 100 feet? Is it a mile? What -- what sort of
- 9 distances are we talking about?
- 10 A. Oh, I'm still not too good at American
- 11 measures. But not a mile.
- 12 Q. If you can't measure it, that's fine too.
- 13 Just don't give it in kilometers because then I
- 14 would -- but is it --
 - A. It's just a few minutes.
- **16** Q. Okay. And as far as the lay of the land
- 17 itself, is there -- is there a slope, or is
- 18 everything level on this property?
- 19 A. No. We -- we -- the creek is going
- 20 there. And from the creek it just kind of gently
- 21 slopes up. And then the further you go up, the --
- 22 the more it starts to slope.
- **Q.** Is this area, then, a higher elevation
- 24 than this area down here?
- 25 A. Oh, yeah.

- Q. So, in other words, if there is a slope,
- 2 it's kind of going down in that direction?
 - A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Okay.
 - A. Yes.
- **Q**. And so tell us, then, what you saw when
- you first came down that afternoon to check on the
- 8 sweat lodge to make sure everything was -- was up
- 9 to par.
- 10 A. When I came just a little after 2:00 in
- 11 this sweat lodge area -- and I had been there
- 12 earlier around noontime also. By 2:00 o'clock, not
- 13 only was the sweat lodge ready to go, but the fire
- 14 was -- they had the stones hot. They had -- there
- 15 was a canopy standing next to -- it had been set up
- 16 next to the sweat lodge. The drink had been
- 17 brought in. The -- the fruit was being brought in,
- 18 so it was everything. The chairs were there. The
- 19 baskets with the towels were there. The hoses were
- 20 there. There was tarps on the ground. Everything
- 21 was just ready.
- 22 Q. And could you see who was working down
- 23 there?

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- A. At that moment Ted and Debbie were there,
- 25 and I think our land landscaper Rotillo was also
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 - there because he was helping with the fire. And I
 - don't remember whether I at that moment saw Ted and
- 3 Debbie's daughter already there. But later she was
- 4 there.
- 5 Q. Do you recall how many fires were burning
- 6 down there?
- 7 A. When I was there, the fire that -- at
- 8 that moment was burning was the main fire where
- 9 they heated the rocks. And then there was this
- 10 little fireplace ready to be lit to the side a
- 11 little bit more away from the sweat lodge. That
- 12 would be lit. I knew that that would be lit for
- 13 the little preceremony that James would be doing
- 14 with his group over in that location.
- **Q.** And could you see what wood was being
- 16 burned in the fire?
 - A. In the main fire you mean?
- 18 Q. Yes.
- 19 A. That were logs.
- 20 Q. And could you see what wood was being
- 21 burned in the little fire or was set up to be
- 22 burned?
- 23 A. In the little fire they had some little,
- 24 smaller planks. And maybe they had a lot too. But
- 25 for a little fire, if you want to have that lit,

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- 1 the logs were a little big to put on the small fire 2 that you have just a little while. But they -they had some little smaller planks.
- 4 You said planks. Can you -- could you --5 do you recall if the wood was natural, like from a 6 tree. Or was it -- did it appear like it was from 7 a hardware store?
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- Α. Both. 9 Q. Okay. And I think I asked you this.
- 10 Was -- was Sarah Mercer down there at that time?
- I don't remember that she was there at 12 that time. Afterwards I for sure know that she was 13 there.
- 14 Q. And how long did you stay down at that location? 15
- 16 Α. I was there about probably 10 minutes --5 or 10 minutes. Then I left. 17
- 18 And do you recall -- while you were down 19 there, you mentioned that some refreshments were 20 being set up. What did you see as far as that?
 - In the -- in the canopy we had these containers, these five-gallon containers, with water and lemon water and electrolyte water. They were all standing on the tables. Cups.
 - And then at that -- in that period or
 - maybe a little afterwards, the fruit would be
- 2 brought in. We would keep the fruit as long as
- 3 possible in the kitchen, in the refrigerator. But
- 4 when the fruit was ready to go, it was brought over
- in these big dishes with metal lids that we use in 5
- 6 the kitchen normally.
- 7 And, ma'am, I'm sure I'll ask you some 8 more questions, but I realize it's noon.
- 9 Your Honor, would this be a good time to
- 10 break?
- 11 THE COURT: Yes. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Hughes.
- 12 Members of the jury, we will take the
- 13 noon recess at this time. Remember the admonition,
- 14 please. Be reassembled at 1:30 as usual.
- 15 And, Ms. Hamilton, again, remember the
- 16 rule of exclusion. And you are excused at this 17 time as well.
- 18 And we are in recess.
- 19 (Recess.)
- 20 THE COURT: The record will show the presence 21 of the defendant, Mr. Ray; the attorneys, and the 22 jury. And Ms. Hamilton is back on the witness
- 23 stand. 24 Mr. Hughes.
- 25 MR. HUGHES: Thank you.

- 1 Mrs. Hamilton, I think we had left off --
- just before lunch you were telling us your
- 3 recollections of the refreshment center being set
- up down at the sweat lodge. Do you recall who was
- setting up the -- the refreshments in that
- 6 refreshment center?
 - Α. Fawn Foster, our housekeeper.
 - Q. And how long all together did you stay
- 9 down there while that was going on? In other
- 10 words, while the -- you mentioned that you went
- 11 down and you saw the fire burning and Fawn setting
- 12 up the refreshments. Did you stay down there
- 13 permanently, or did you leave at that point and go
- 14 somewhere else?
 - Α. At that point I was there about five minutes. And then I left and came back soon.
- 16 17 Okay. And approximately -- do you
- 18 remember what time in the day you returned?
- 19 Α. I was back at 2:25.
- 20 And I guess I -- maybe I misunderstood.
- 21 The first time that you were down there, what time
- 22 of the day was that?
- 23 Α. That was in the afternoon. A little
 - after 2:00 o'clock.
- 25 Q. Okay. And so how long were you gone,
- 1 then, when you -- until you returned?
 - Α. About 20 minutes.
 - 3 Q. Okay. And what, if anything, did you
 - 4 observe when you returned around 2:25?
 - When I returned, the group had completed
 - 6 their ceremony to the site in the little fire. And
 - they were walking over towards the canopy where the
 - 8 drinks and the fruit was. And they formed a line
 - 9 so that they could enter the sweat lodge.
 - 10 Q. And how long did you stay down on this
 - 11 occasion? 12
 - Α. On that -- on that occasion I stayed 13 there about half an hour.
 - 14 And what were you doing while you were 15 down there?
 - 16 Α. I sat down by a tree in the shade, and I 17 watched.
 - 18 Q. And did you, then, observe the 19 participants actually going inside?
 - 20 I observed the participants going inside. Α.
 - 21 Q. Did you take some photographs while you
 - 22 were down there?
 - 23 Α. I did.
 - 24 Q. I'm going to show you what's already been
 - admitted as Exhibit 143 and ask if you recognize

- 1 that photograph?
- 2 A. I do.

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- Q. And what is it you recognize about this4 photograph?
 - A. That's the photograph I took as I was sitting there by these trees. And I took that of the group as they were entering the sweat lodge.
 - **Q.** And turning, then, to Exhibit 144, do you recognize that photograph?
- 10 A. I do. I do.
- 11 Q. And what, if anything, do you recognize 12 about that photograph?
- 13 A. That was just taken a few minutes later 14 of the same vision, the same happening.
- Q. Were you in the same spot, or had youmoved in a little closer?
- 17 A. No. I was in the same spot. I had my 18 camera zoomed in a little more.
- 19 Q. Okay. And showing you Exhibit 145, do 20 you recognize that photograph?
 - A. I recognize that photograph too.
- **Q.** And what is it you recognize about
- 23 Exhibit 145?

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- 24 A. I took it.
- 25 Q. And do you recall at what point in the
 - day or what point during the ceremony you took
- 2 Exhibit 145?
- A. After the people had entered, I leftwhere I was sitting and I walked over closer to the
 - sweat lodge. And I took this photo from over the
- 6 fire to the sweat lodge that had at that time
- 7 begun. The door was closed, and it had started.
- Q. Do you remember what round thisphotograph would have been taken after?
- 10 A. That was the very -- very first round.
- Q. Okay. And then showing you Exhibit 146,do you recognize that photograph?
- 13 A. I took that too.
- 14 Q. And at what point during the ceremony was
- **15** Exhibit 146 taken?
- A. That was a few moments after the other one was taken. I walked around to the west side of the sweat lodge, and this is the photo I took.
- **Q.** Okay. And then Exhibit 147. Do you recognize that photograph?
- 21 A. Yes.
- **Q.** And what is it about 147 that you
- 23 recognize?
- 24 A. I took that too.
- 25 Q. And can you tell us which round it was

1 taken during.

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- A. Still the first round.
- 3 Q. And can you tell us why it is that you
- 4 decided to take photographs at all on that
- 5 afternoon.
 - A. No logical reason.
- **Q.** Do you -- is that something that you have
- 8 typically done when other groups have been present?
 - A. No. Normally I do take a lot of
- 10 photographs around Angel Valley, but usually when I
- 11 am at my leisure and not normally when I am in
- 12 action. Because then I usually forget to take a
- 13 camera with me.
- Q. And you mentioned when you were inaction. Were you doing anything during the first
- 16 round?
- 17 A. Well, in action, I mean during that
- 18 entire retreat, I was very much in a supervising
- 19 role. And that is normally not my -- my way of
- 20 taking photographs. I do that more in my free
- 21 time, so to speak.
- **Q.** Do you carry a camera around with you on
- 23 the property?

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- A. Not normally.
- 25 Q. Now, turning back to the photograph of
- 1 the participants lining up, do you recall how long
 - ! It took for everybody to go inside?
 - A. About 10 minutes.
 - **Q.** And do you recall whether there was any
 - instruction by the defendant to the participants
 - 6 about what they'd be experiencing inside or how to
 - 7 go inside, anything along those lines?
 - 8 A. I didn't hear anything. I was too far
 - 9 away.
 - Q. And do you know at what point it is,
 - 11 then, you moved from the location you told us about
 - 12 where you were a little distance away behind the
 - 13 trees to when you moved in closer towards where the
 - 14 actual ceremony was taking place?
 - 15 A. When everybody was inside and they 16 started to close the door, I came closer.
 - 17 Q. And what did you -- were you standing?
 - 18 Were you sitting?19 A. I was -- other than walking to take
 - 19 A. I was -- other than walking to take the 20 pictures, I was also sitting on this log that is -
 - well, you don't see it here. But a little bit this
 - 22 way, there is a -- yeah.
 - Q. Is this -- let me find it and show you --
 - 24 A. Yes.
 - **Q.** -- Exhibit 144. Do you see the log you

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- 1 were talking about in that photograph?
- 2 A. Yes, I do.
- **Q.** And can you point it out for us.
- 4 A. That's the one.
- **Q.** And do you have an idea -- and we may
- 6 have gone there, distances, earlier. Do you have
- 7 an idea of distance of how far that log was from
- 8 the door to the sweat lodge?
- 9 A. 12 to 15 feet.
- 10 Q. And can you tell us about how long you,
- 11 then, sat on that log?
- 12 A. About -- about five minutes. I was
- 13 sitting next to Fawn. Fawn was sitting there too.
- 14 We were sitting side by side there for a little
- 15 bit.

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- **Q.** Do you know how long the first round
- 17 lasted?
 - A. I left before the first round was over.
- 19 Q. And why is it that -- that you left
- 20 before the first round was over?
 - A. In the first place, because there was
- 22 nothing much for me to do. In the second place,
- 23 because what I heard was being said in the sweat
- 24 lodge didn't resonate with me, so I had no
- 25 fascination of staying around.
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- 1 Q. Could you hear people inside the sweat
- 2 lodge speaking?
- 3 A. Yes.
- **Q.** Could you hear the defendant inside the
- 5 sweat lodge speaking?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And is there something that you heard
- 8 during the first round that, as you said, didn't
- 9 resonate with you?
- 10 MR. LI: Objection. Relevance.
- 11 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 12 THE WITNESS: The one thing I heard that did
- 13 resonate with me was that he asked to be guided
- 14 through the ceremony with the spirit guides. What
- 15 did not resonate with me was when I heard, I am the
- 16 alpha and the omega. I am God. And that was more
- 17 than I felt comfortable with.
- 18 So I left the ceremony for what they were
- 19 doing, and I did not feel comfort being part of
- **20** that.
- **Q.** And do you know how far into the sweat
- 22 lodge ceremony, it's the first round it was, and
- 23 that you left the area?
- 24 A. It must have been some 10 minutes.
- 25 Because I left before the first round was over.

- And I had taken the pictures around. I had sat with Fawn for a little bit, and then I left.
- **Q.** And do you recall how many rocks -- did
- 4 you take note of how many rocks were brought in for
- 5 the first round?
 - A. I did.
- **Q.** And do you recall how many, then, were
- 8 taken in?

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- A. My recollection is about 12.
- 10 Q. And where did you wind up going after you
- 11 left the area?
- 12 A. Since I was there and having my camera
- 13 with me, I decided to go up the road and take photo
- 14 from a distance. And then I went to the Crystal
- 15 Hall and took some pictures. Then I had a feeling
- 16 to take some pictures of this occurrence.
- 17 Q. You mentioned taking some photos from a
- 18 distance. I'm going to show you Exhibit 141.
- 19 A. Yeah.
- **Q.** Is that one of the photos you took from a
- 21 distance?

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- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And one thing I wanted to ask which -
 - which I neglected to ask earlier about Exhibit 141,
- 25 to the right of this sweat lodge -- would you agree
 - 136
- 1 with me the sweat lodge is where I made a mark?
 - A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Okay. Can you tell us, then, if you
- 4 would -- I had asked you about this area back in
- 5 here. Can you tell us -- I'm going to remove that
- 6 mark so I don't make this too confusing. Can you
- 7 tell us what is depicted over in that area.
- 8 A. Over that between the trees, we had some
- 9 storage of some lumber that was left over from
- 10 construction. And that -- and that was covered
- 11 with tarps, as you can see.
- **Q.** Do you know whether any of that leftover
- 13 construction wood was used for the ceremony in 2009
- 14 Spiritual Warrior?
 - A. Yes, it was.
- **Q.** And can you see that wood in this
- 17 photograph?

- 18 A. It looks -- it looks like -- no. If you
- 19 go to the right. Maybe it's the other way. It
- 20 looks like these are logs. And we were using
- 21 logs -- we had a pile of these logs that we used
- 22 during the ceremony that had been -- had been
- 23 stored in that area.
- 24 Q. And do you know, then, approximately when
- 25 during the ceremony this Exhibit 141 was taken?

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- Oh. The photo was taken at a few minutes after 3:00, five after 3:00 or so.
 - Q. And how is it you know the time?
- 4 Because when I had loaded the photos into 5 my computer, it registered the time that it -- the 6 photo was taken. And the camera I used had the 7 time exact.
- 8 Q. Now, I noticed in some of the photos we 9 talked about earlier, the time stamp you said was 10 not accurate?
- Α. That was a different camera. 11
- 12 Q. Okay.

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- 13 Α. And that was three years before.
- 14 Q. Can you tell us -- on this photograph 15 over in the right-hand side of the photo, there is 16 some additional item over in there. Can you tell 17 us what's depicted in there.
 - Α. Those are poles of teepees. I shared before that we had had teepees, which we had had more teepees than the two that we still had up in 2009. We had not sold all the teepees.
- Those -- these long lines that you see here, those 22
- 23 are teepee poles that are stacked there. They were
- 24 never laying together with construction wood
- 25 because teepee poles are teepee poles.
 - And after you left, then, and took these
 - photographs from up on the road, what was the
- 3 next -- what was your next involvement with the
- 4 sweat lodge ceremony?
- 5 The next involvement with the ceremony 6 was when I came down at about a quarter to 5:00 and 7 the ceremony was still going.
- 8 And what, if anything, did you observe Q. 9 when you arrived around a quarter to 5:00?
- The first thing I did was asking people 10 11 which round they were in.
 - Q. Did you see any people outside?
- 13 Α. There were people outside.
- And tell us, if you would, what you saw 14
- 15 as far as people outside.
- There were -- to begin with, they were 16 17 the same people outside that were assisting. But there were also people outside. They were just 18
- laying on the ground. And it was very hard to see 19
- for me what condition they were in. But they 20 were --21
- 22 Q. What do you mean it was hard for you to 23 see their condition?
- 24 Α. Because they were just laying still. They were not interacting with anybody. So I 25

- 1 didn't know whether they were just resting or whether they were feeling bad.
- 3 Did you -- did you try and talk to any of Q. 4 those participants?
 - Α. Not with the participants.
- 6 Okay. Who did you talk to to try and Q.
- 7 find out the round?
 - Α. Yes. I asked the -- the people who were
- doing the fire, and I asked Fawn. And I --
- somebody said, it's the sixth round. Other people 10
- said it was the seventh round. And I thought that
- is strange. Why is there a difference? 12
- 13 Do you know who told you it was the sixth and who told you it was the seventh? 14
- 15 Α. No.
- 16 Q. And did -- did anyone tell you it was the 17 eighth round?
 - Α. Nobody told me it was the eighth round -eighth round.
- 20 Q. Okay. And you said you talked to the 21 Mercers and -- well, you didn't say that. Do you
- 22 know who the people were who were running the fire?
- 23 Α. I did.
 - Q. And who -- who was running the fire?
- 25 Α. Ted and Debbie Mercer.
 - 140

Okay. And do you know whether their

- daughter was down there at that point?
- 3 Α. Yes.

Q.

- Q. 4 Okay. And was Fawn still down there?
 - Α. Yes.
- 6 Q. And where was Fawn?
- 7 Α. Fawn was sitting on the -- oh. Yeah. On
- 8 this log here.
- And did you -- what did you observe, if 9 Q.
- 10 anything, about Fawn?
- 11 She was sitting in a very -- you know --
- 12 very much by herself way. So I sat down next to
- 13 her and I asked how she was doing. And I wasn't
- sure whether she was in a meditative state or 14
- 15 whether she was -- whatever was going on.
- 16 And I -- she didn't immediately respond.
- 17 And then she kind of looked at me and she said,
- 18 Amayra, something is really wrong here. This is
- 19
 - not right. And I just kind of, oh. And she was so
- 20 totally upset. This is not right, she kept saying.
- 21 This is not right. Something is wrong. And -- and
- 22 then she -- and then I said, What happened? What's
- 23 going on? What happened? And then she shared
- 24 something that she had heard.
- 25 MR. LI: Objection. Hearsay.

MR. HUGHES: I believe it's an excited

is classic hearsay. It is literally being offered

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for the truth of the matter.

25 the hearsay rule.

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she had heard --

nonresponsive, no foundation.

THE COURT: Sustained.

been observing all afternoon and in particular what

MR. LI: Objection. Move to strike as

	145		147
1	MR. LI: Your Honor, if I may approach.	1	So sustained.
2	THE COURT: Yes.	2	MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor.
3	(Sidebar conference.)	3	(End of sidebar conference.)
4	MR. LI: This is exactly the problem. The	4	THE COURT: Mr. Hughes.
5	state is just fishing around for her to eventually	5	MR. HUGHES: Thank you.
6	say something, blurt out something. And the	6	Q. Mrs. Hamilton, after speaking with Fawn
7	foundation hasn't been laid. This is not it is	7	Foster, what did you do next?
8	classic hearsay. It is also 403. This is being	8	A. Because she was sharing with me and
9	offered for the truth of the matter asserted. And	9	she
10	we are on such dangerous ground.	10	MR. LI: Objection, Your Honor. Move to
11	MR. HUGHES: Your Honor, If I can respond.	11	strike.
12	I'm not fishing around. I'm trying to lay	12	THE COURT: Sustained.
13	foundation for an excited utterance, not hoping	13	Q. BY MR. HUGHES: Mrs. Hamilton
14	that she's going to blurt out. And, quite	14	THE COURT: Granted.
15	honestly, the witness hasn't said what Fawn has	15	Go ahead, Mr. Hughes.
16	told her. But I think it's appropriate for me to	16	Q. BY MR. HUGHES: I'm not I'm not asking
17	lay a foundation that this is an excited utterance.	17	you what at this point I'm not asking you what
18	MR. LI: With all due respect, Your Honor, she	18	Ms. Foster told you. What did you do after
19	keeps trying to say what she wants to say. She	19	speaking with Ms. Foster?
20	keeps on saying it was based on something I	20	A. I took her apart from the from the
21	heard that she was about to say. It's laying in	21	log. I said, Fawn, come with me behind the canopy.
22	the jury's mind the idea that there is some	22	Because I was afraid that our conversation might
23	horrible thing that she's just dying to tell them.	23	disturb people who were around there or possibly
24	This is improper.	24	the ceremony. I didn't want that to happen.
25	THE COURT: The excited utterance is a	25	MR. LI: Objection. Move to strike as
	146		148

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well-recognized exception, Mr. Li.
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          MR. LI: It's for things like who did it.
    It's not classic things of hearsay of what another
    witness says they observed. Your Honor, this is
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 5
    classic hearsay. Your excited utterance is, oh, my
 6
    God. The car that drove by was red.
 7
               This is a situation where the state is
 8
    attempting to elicit from this witness what another
 9
    witness said she observed.
10
          THE COURT: And the other -- well, the excited
11
    utterance is -- that's what happens. It's what
12
    another witness observes.
13
          MR. LI: And I apologize. I misspoke. It's
14
    not whether or not what another witness observed.
15
    It's what another witness heard someone else to
16
    say. And there has been so much testimony about
17
    this, Your Honor, and there has been great
    imprecision about the words being used.
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19
          THE COURT: And there is really -- in terms of
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the timing and lots of questions, it hasn't come up

with timing and through the whole afternoon. And

that would speak against excited utterance. This

is -- it's not directly in the Sixth Amendment

area. But it's this hearsay area that is

particularly dangerous.

narrative, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Overruled. THE WITNESS: So I took her apart and I held her in my arms. And I asked her to breathe so that she could calm her body down. And I said, Fawn, ıf -- if what you saying is true, then -- you know --MR. LI: Objection. Move to strike, Your Honor --10 THE COURT: Overruled. 11 MR. LI: -- as narrative. 12 THE COURT: Overruled. 13 THE WITNESS: Then the people will need us 14 when they come out. So let's -- calm yourself 15

down, please, if you can. 16 Q. BY MR. HUGHES: And how long were you 17 down there, then, before people -- did -- did -- at 18 some point, were -- did you stay down there when 19 that round ended? 20 I stayed down when the round ended. Α.

21 And do you recall how long you were down 22 there until that round ended?

A. What I just shared with you happened during the last round. I arrived right before the one was the last round ended. After that when the

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- door had opened and had closed, then I sat downwith Fawn and had this interaction.
- Q. And to make sure I understand, you
 4 arrived down before the beginning of what you later
 5 learned was the last round?
- 6 A. Yes.
- Q. And the conversation, then, that you hadwith Fawn was during the last round?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And how is it that you knew that that was11 the last round?
- 12 A. At that -- at that point I expected it to 13 be the last round. And then it turned out to be 14 the last round.
- Q. Did you see -- did you see anybody exitthe lodge, then, when that round ended?
- 17 A. The one with the last round, yes.
- 18 Q. And I'm referring now specifically when19 you arrived down, you were present before the door20 closed for the last round?
- 21 A. I was.
- **Q.** And did you see anybody leaving while the
- 23 door was open?
- 24 A. I did.
- **Q.** And can you tell us who it is that you
- 150

1 saw leaving?

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- A. I do not know who because I didn't know any of their names.
- Q. Can you tell us a description of how manypeople it was. Were they men or women as far as
- 6 the people that you saw leaving in that
- 7 intermission before the final round?
- A. A few people came out. A few people went back in. The people who came out didn't seem to feel very well.
- 11 Q. And what is it that makes you believe12 that?
- A. Because if a person exits a sweat lodge and they feel good, they stand up and walk away. And these people could not walk away.
- Q. What is it that made you believe thatpeople leaving in the intermission before the lastround could not walk away?
- 19 A. Because they needed help to be taken away 20 from the door, and then they would lay down.
- Q. Could you see who was helping them movefrom the front door?
- 23 A. The people from the Dream Team.
 - Q. Did you see anything else about the
- 25 people leaving during that intermission that led

- 1 you to believe that they weren't doing well?
- 2 A. People had -- people were just totally 3 uncomfortable, were not breathing properly and --
- 4 MR. LI: Objection. Move to strike.
- 5 Speculation.
- 6 THE COURT: Sustained as to foundation.
- 7 Q. BY MR. HUGHES: And can you tell us what
- 8 it was that made you believe they were not
- 9 breathing properly.
- 10 A. When people kind of start coughing and 11 kind of throwing up. And that's not giving me the 12 feeling that they are breathing comfortably.
- 13 Q. How long, then -- from the time that14 Intermission ended and the final round began, how15 long did that final round last?
- 16 A. Maybe a little over 10 minutes.
- 17 Q. Do you know how many rocks were brought18 In for that final round?
 - A. No.

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- Q. And do you know about what time of theday the final round ended?
- A. It is my estimation that it was a little after 5:00. I did not wear a watch. And it was
- 23 aπer 5:00. I did not wear a watch. And it v
- 24 just about 5:00 o'clock.
- **Q.** And at the end of the final round, did
- 1 you see people leave the sweat lodge?
 - A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Can you describe what it is you saw at
- 4 the end of the final round.
 - A. Total chaos.
- 6 Q. What do you mean by that?
- A. People came out. They had to be taken away so that the next person could come out. And they did not -- they could not walk away. They had
- 10 been some had to be dragged out.
- 11 Q. How did -- how did you see people being12 dragged?
- A. There was people of the Dream Team and people who were kind of fit to do something helped other people out. Other people that came out of the sweat lodge were also helping their buddies coming out. And people were just collapsing left and right all over the place. It was -- it was the most horrible thing I've ever seen.
- Q. Do you recall -- and where were you whenyou were observing people leaving?
- A. I was in the -- in this area here still by the -- first. But then very soon I started --
- 24 because people -- the people needed help. So I
 - 5 started bringing towels to people, bringing water.

- 1 People who could sit on a chair I put them on a
- 2 chair. People who were laying down, to help them
- to lay on the tarp rather than on the sand. But
- there were so many people not feeling well. And
- there were -- yes. There were helpers, but there
- 6 was not enough.
- 7 Q. You mentioned you were bringing towels.
- 8 Why is it that you were bringing towels to people?
- 9 A. Well, we had -- maybe if we have -- if we
- 10 have this photo here. You see these white baskets
- 11 over there? We had these -- these baskets filled
- 12 with towels for the people for when they would come
- 13 out of the lodge. We had two towels for each
- 14 person. And -- and the people who came out,
- 15 they -- well, they -- they might have known that.
- 16 But they -- they didn't pick them up. They were
- 17 not -- they -- they didn't look for the towels.
- 18 So we would -- I would bring them and --
- 19 but I was on this -- basically, on this side of
- 20 the -- of the sweat lodge.
- 21 Q. Did you see anybody who -- with hoses or
- 22 with water?
- 23 A. They -- there was people who -- that
- 24 sprayed hoses over people and -- yeah.
- **Q.** Who was spraying hoses on people?
- 154
- 1 A. People of the Dream Team. But I cannot
- 2 tell who did what.
- Q. Did you see any other methods in which
- 4 participants were wetted down other than by using
- 5 the hoses?
- 6 A. No. Not really.
- 7 Q. And did you see the defendant leave the
- 8 sweat lodge?
- 9 A. He came out first. Yes. I saw him.
- 10 Q. And did you see what he did or where he
- 11 went?
- 12 A. What I saw was he came out. And he was
- 13 standing up. Then my -- I looked at who came out
- 14 next. When I saw him standing up, I had to say oh.
- 15 He's fine. So I saw what was happening next. For
- 16 a little bit I did not see where he was.
- 17 Q. And did you at some point see where he
- 18 wound up down there?
 - A. After little while -- well, pretty much.
- 20 Pretty soon I saw him in the canopy where the
- 21 drinks were. He was sitting on a chair there for a
- 22 while. And I -- I did not really follow him
- 23 because there were so many people who needed
- 24 attention. And he did not need attention, so I
- 25 gave my attention to what was going on.

- 1 Q. You mentioned you saw people that needed
- 2 attention?

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- A. Uh-huh.
- **Q.** Other than the ones you've described who
- 5 were having assistance from the lodge, did you see
- 6 anybody else who needed assistance?
 - A. That -- that was all that was going on.
- 8 People were -- I'm describing here what I observed
- 9 as they were coming out.
- 10 Q. Did you see anybody having CPR performed?
- 11 A. No. Not -- not from this side, and
- 12 not -- not on this side of the lodge.
- 13 Q. At some point that evening, did you see
- 14 people or a person having CPR performed?
 - A. I did.
- 16 Q. And tell us what you saw about that.
- 17 A. That is later. I did see that from this
- 18 side. There were people on the backside of the
- 19 sweat lodge. So there were things going on there.
- 20 But at that moment I didn't know what. Later when
- 21 I came back, I saw that that was where people did
- 22 CPR on some people.
- 23 Q. How much space is there between the -
 - the base on the back side of the lodge and the area
- 25 where the -- the forest, if you will, begins?
- 156
- 1 A. Oh. Where the -- where the trees begin?
 - Q. Yes.
- 3 A. Oh. 20 feet. Yeah. About 20 feet.
- **Q.** And the person or persons receiving
- 5 CPR -- can you tell us where in that area they were
- 6 located.
- 7 A. Here.
 - Q. And can you tell us -- how many people
- 9 did you observe receiving CPR?
- 10 A. Two.
 - Q. At some point did you become aware of
- 12 whether or not 9-1-1 was called?
- 13 A. As I was here, I heard Debbie Mercer say,
- 14 we need to call 9-1-1.
 - Q. Did you --
- 16 A. And --
- 17 Q. Did you see who she said that to?
- 18 A. No. I heard.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 A. I heard.
- **Q.** Then let me clear these marks on here.
- 22 Can you show us where you were standing and where
- 23 you heard Debbie speaking from?
 - A. I was in this area. And I heard Debbie
- 25 coming -- walking from that direction. And she was

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- 1 saying, we have to call 9-1-1. We have to call 2 9-1-1. And --
- **Q.** And I'm sorry. I didn't see the mark.
- 4 But can you show us where.
 - A. I saw her walk ---
- **Q.** You were in that area?
- 7 A. I saw her walk away from -- from whatever
- 8 was happening over there. I saw her coming from
- 9 there this way. And that is when I heard. And I
- 10 was here in this area. I do not know exactly where
- 11 because I was moving.
- **Q.** And had you seen the CPR being performed
- 13 at that point?

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- 14 A. No.
 - Q. And after Debbie said, we need to call
- 16 9-1-1, what did you see happen next?
- 17 A. She -- I -- between when I heard that
- 18 first and then a few seconds later, there may have
- 19 been a little -- few seconds. But then I saw her
- 20 walk over to her golf cart and drive out. And I
- 21 went to my golf cart that was parked on the other
- 22 side.
- 23 She took a golf cart that was parked
- 24 somewhere -- somewhere this way, this direction,
- 25 and -- and my golf cart was on the other side. So
 - 158
 - I took a golf cart that way, and she took a golf
- 2 cart this way.
- 3 Q. Let me show you a -- kind of a larger
- 4 scale. On this photograph, which is Exhibit 141,
- 5 can you show us where it is you saw Mrs. Mercer
- 6 heading towards and where it is you took your golf
- 7 cart towards.
- 8 A. Okay. She -- the golf cart that she took
- 9 was parked somewhere over here. And she went
- 10 down -- down below and then that way. And I took
- 11 my golf cart, which was parked here, and I went
- 12 this way.
- 13 Q. And can you tell us what is in this
- 14 direction that you saw Mrs. Mercer heading towards?
- 15 A. At that moment I expected and I knew, and
- 16 that is when I found out what she did. She was
- 17 driving to the home that she was living in because
- Truming to the nome that she was hving in because
- 18 that was for her the closest get to a phone. And I
- went this way to the closest phone that was on thatside.
- . .
- **Q.** And then showing you the map,
- 22 Exhibit 140 ---
- 23 A. Uh-huh.
- **Q.** -- can you show us the phone -- the
- 25 location of the phone that you drove to.

- 1 A. I drove from here -- this way from here
- to this building.
- **Q.** And how long of a drive did that take you
- 4 in the golf cart?

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- A. A minute.
- **Q.** And did you then -- what did you do when
- 7 you reached the phone?
- 8 A. I grabbed the phone, dialed my husband's
- $9\,$ $\,$ number, who was here in the house, told him I was
- 10 going to call 9-1-1.
 - Q. And did you then call 9-1-1?
- 12 A. Then I called 9-1-1.
- 13 Q. Now, did you have at that time a nurse
- **14** who was volunteering or staying on the property?
 - A. The question is not completely -- we --
- 16 we had on our team -- in our team we had a person
- 17 who was a retired nurse.
 - Q. And --
- 19 A. And yes. She was within -- within our
- 20 team of volunteers but not as a nurse.
 - Q. Okay. And -- and let me -- let me ask a
- 22 couple of additional questions. This lady who had
- 23 been a nurse was not a Dream Team member; correct?
 - A. Oh, no.
- 25 Q. Is that -- can you tell us what she was

160

- 1 doing at Angel Valley.
 - A. She was -- she was part of our board of
- 3 the ministry. She was volunteering and doing work
- 4 in the gift shop, and she was doing sessions as a
- 5 practitioner. She was a therapist.
- **Q.** Had you ever told the defendant or any of
- 7 his employees that you had a lady who happened to
- 8 be a nurse there on the property?
 - A. No.
- 10 Q. When -- after you called 9-1-1, did you
- 11 try and make contact with this lady who had been
- 12 the nurse?
- 13 A. Yes. After I hang up the phone, I called
- 14 9-1-1. And they told me they already were on the
- 5 phone with somebody else from Angel Valley. So I
- 16 hang up and went to the office to find this person.
- 17 Q. And then what -- what did you do next?
- 19 the people in the office to go find her because she
- 20 was somewhere over the property. So somebody went

She was not in the office. But I told

- 21 to find her. I drove -- then I drove back to the
- 21 to mild field 2 drove them 2 drove back to the
- 22 sweat lodge area.

Α.

- 23 Q. Do you know whether or not Debbie Mercer
- 24 is the one who found the nurse?
 - A. No.

- 1 Q. Do you know who it was who found the
- 2 nurse?

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- 3 Α. I think it was our office coordinator, 4 Ingrid Hardy.
 - Q. And when you arrived, where did you go then after sending someone off to find this nurse?
 - I went back to the sweat lodge. And I came back the same way from the -- over that area. So I came back from there. And that is when I saw that at the back of the sweat lodge they were doing CPR.
- 12 Q. Do you recall at what point the emergency 13 medical people began to arrive?
- 14 It must have been about 15 -- 15 minutes, 15 maybe a little more. But they were fast.
 - Q. And 15 minutes from what point?
- 17 Α. I don't know.
- Q. 18 Well, let me ask you this: You said they 19 arrived about 15 minutes --
- 20 Α. After -- after the -- after 9-1-1 was called. 21
- Q. 22 Okay. At some point that evening, did 23 there come a time when the -- all the emergency 24 medical people had left?
 - Α. Everybody?

1 They -- did the -- did there come a time 2 when the -- the firemen and the EMTs and the

3 paramedics that they had finished treating patients

4 and had left?

- Α. Yeah. At some point they left.
- 6 And how long did it take to reach that 7 point that everybody had left, all the medical 8 people had left?
- 9 Oh, hours. They -- first they treated 10 people down below by the sweat lodge. And then 11 when -- when people had been taken to hospitals, 12 they -- and -- and people who were not taken to
- hospitals had left the sweat lodge area, then they 13
- came to the dining room because the participants 14
- 15 had been asked to gather in the dining room. So
- 16 they came over to the dining room to check
- 17 whether -- to let us know that they would be 18 leaving.
- 19 And then I was by that time in the dining 20 room. And I saw people there that didn't seem to 21 feel well. So I asked the paramedics to check them 22 out. And also I asked the participants whether
- 23 everybody was already there, whether people knew
- 24 their roommates were in the dining room. And they
- 25 were not.

- 1 So then we had somebody go around -- one
- 2 of the participants, I think, went around to check
- 3 people who were still in their rooms or in their
- cabins or in their tents. And then they found
- 5 several people. And those who were not very
- 6 interested in coming over by themselves, we had the
- paramedics go there to check them out. And from --7
- from that situation there were another eight people
- 9 that they took to the hospital for -- to check.
- 10 I'm going to show you what's marked and 11 admitted as Exhibit 229. Do you recognize that 12 photograph?
- 13 Α. I do.
- 14 Q. And how is it that you recognize
- 15 Exhibit 229?
- 16 Α. Because that is one of the photos that
- 17 was taken by our office coordinator, Ingrid Hardy.
- 18 And she showed me the photos, and I offered them --
- 19 and I offered them to Detective Diskin.
- 20 And I'm going to show you Exhibit 230 and 21 ask the same question. Do you recognize that
- 22 photograph?
- 23 Α. That is -- that is -- she took a few
- 24 photos. And this is -- this is one of them. But
- 25 it is part of the photo taken enlarged.
- 162
- 1 Q. And what do you mean by it's part of the 2 photo enlarged?
- 3 Α. Well, she -- the photo that she took was
- a little bit -- taken from a little further away. 5 So what you see in this photo is -- is part of the
- 6 photo that she originally took.
- 7 Q. And do you know what -- what time she took those photos?
- 8 9 These photos were taken around a quarter Α.
- 10 to 6:00. 11
 - Q. And how is it that you know that time?
- 12 Α. Because the computer showed that that was 13 the time that the photo was taken.
- 14 And was that -- do you know -- did she 15 use your camera to take the pictures?
- 16 Α. No. She used her own camera.
- 17 Q. And do you know whether or not the time 18 stamp on her camera was accurate or not?
 - Α. It was accurate. Yes.
 - Q. I'm going to show you what's been admitted as Exhibit 148, which is a certified
- 21
- 22 document of the -- the different temperatures that
- 23 day at the Sedona Airport. And I'm going to ask if
- you recall starting in the -- the afternoon. Do
- you see there is a date? Let me zoom in a little

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recollection?

A. Okay. I can see.

3 Q. We've got a date. And then there is

4 times. Do you recall whether the temperatures that

5 are shown, for example, on October 8 at 5:30 --

6 whether that -- that temperature of 66 degrees,

7 does that feel approximately what you saw the

temperature to be?

A. I would say yeah.

10 Q. Would you have -- based on your 11 recollection, would you have any reason to disagree 12 with that?

> Α. No, I would not disagree.

14 Q. Okay. And then there is -- on this 15 column we also have humidity. And it shows the 16 wind as well. Do you recall whether -- it's just 17 peak wind. Do you recall whether the listings here 18 for the humidity and wind gusts -- do those also 19 appear to -- do they appear accurate, based on your

A. Well, the numbers of the humidity and the wind does not mean so much to me. They do not -- I cannot relate very well to the numbers.

Do you know how far your property of Angel Valley is from the Sedona Airport?

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Seven -- seven -- a little over seven A. miles.

3 Q. After the sheriff's department had 4 completed their investigation, were you -- did you 5 and your husband have a plan or a decision to do something with the sweat lodge structure?

> Α. Yes, we did.

Q. And can you tell us at what point it is you and your husband decided to -- to do something with the sweat lodge structure?

On the Friday, the 9th, one of the things Michael and I discussed what to do. Not what to do. What's the next thing we need to do other than taking care of all the people. Because there were still many people around. And one of the things we wanted to do was to take down the sweat lodge and clear the area.

18 Q. You mentioned there were still people

19 around?

> A. Yes.

> > Q. What people are you referring to?

22 There were still a little over 20 23 participants around that had planned -- we had

24 invited people to spend an extra night if they

25 wanted to. And there was -- and those were the people -- those who had planned to do that actually

did do that. So they were still that day there.

3 So they had to be taken care of on all levels.

4 And we -- on that day the investigation, 5 there was -- there was so many people around in the 6 sweat lodge area to investigate everything. And 7 then Detective Diskin told us towards the evening that they were complete and that the land was ours 9 again.

10 And then we asked him, is it okay to take 11 the sweat lodge down because we would like to do a 12 ceremony tomorrow together with the people who were 13 part of it and make it kind of a ceremony that was 14 combined kind of a memorial, a kind of a healing 15 for -- because all these people were in tremendous 16 pain. And also start clearing this place.

17 And I'm showing you what's admitted as 18 Exhibit 232. Do you recognize that -- what's

19 depicted in that photograph?

20 Α. That is a picture that was taken during 21 that ceremony. Yes.

22 Q. And do you know who took the photograph?

23 A. I am not totally sure. Because on that 24 occasion I took a number of photos. And Ingrid, 25

the same person who took the other photos, also

I -- at this moment when I see myself in

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1 took a number of photos.

3 a picture, then I know that she took it. And, otherwise, when I see her, then I took it. And, 5 otherwise, the ones that neither of us is in, I 6 have to go in the computer and see which series 7 they are.

> Q. Okay. Was she using her camera --

9 Α. Yes.

10 Q. -- and you were using your camera?

11 Α.

> Q. Other than the participants who were still on the property, do you recall who else attended the ceremony where you dismantled the lodge?

16 Our -- our entire team -- Ted and Debbie 17 Mercer and Sarah Mercer and her boyfriend and --18 yeah.

19 Q. And can you tell us what is at the site

20 now.

We changed that into a place that initially we called "Memorial Site." We want to honor the three people who passed. And we also want to use this place, which we now call the "Garden of Transformation," for every person --

- 1 each one of us has to deal with feelings of life 2 and death.
 - And this is a place that we use to -to -- for -- to meditate on these things and to heal on every person's own issues of life and death.
- 7 A couple of areas we have talked about. 8 and I want to go back and make sure I'm not 9 confused on -- on particular issues. You had 10 mentioned earlier that Mr. Palisch worked for a
- 11 time as your general manager?
- 12 A. Yes.

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- 13 Q. Can you tell us again the month and the 14 year he began and the month and the year he ended?
- 15 A. Yeah. As a general manager he started in 16 September of 2007. And he left us in -- in 17 December of 2008.
 - Q. Did he stay on in any capacity into 2009?
- 19 Α. No.

ceremony in 2007?

- 20 Q. And I'm not sure if I asked you. But turning your attention back in time, do you recall 21 22 what month the defendant held the sweat lodge
- 24 Α. In 2007 it was in September.
- 25 Q. And from 2003 to the present, of 2009,
 - were there any times when the sweat lodge ceremony
- 3 In the first -- in 2003 and in 2004, the 4 sweat lodge ceremonies were held in the evening, in the dark. Oh. And in 2005. Sorry. 2005 too.
- 7
- 9
- 10 No. In 2002, 2003, and 2004, the sweat 11 lodge ceremony was in the evening, and people were
- 12
- 13 was -- the order was reversed. They first did
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17 ceremony in the evening.
- 18 Q. And then showing you Exhibit 561, do you 19 recognize what's depicted in that photograph?
- 20 Α.
- 22 That is the Memorial Site as it was in Α. 23 the very beginning.
- And in the background -- I don't know how 25 clear this is going to be. But in the background,

- 1 we see there's some steps or stairs. Can you tell
- us how many sets of stairs lead down to this --
- this plain where the sweat lodge was set up on?
- 4 Do you mean how many steps or --
 - Well, there's a -- do you see a staircase
- in that location?

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- Α. Yes.
 - Q. Are there any other staircases that lead
- 9 down to that area?
- 10 Α. Yes. There is -- to the left at the
- 11 bottom part where the -- where it is the highest,
- 12 there is another set of steps.
- 13 Q. And are you referring to an area over in
- 14 this area here?
 - Α. Yeah. More -- more to the back.
- 16 Okay. And I'm -- I'm asking
- 17 specifically, it appears that this area is -- is
- 18 raised up.
 - Α. Yeah.
- 20 Q. And it appears there is a plain, if you
- 21 will, down in this area here?
- 22 Yes. Α.
- 23 Q. Can you tell me, other than this
- 24 staircase that we see here, are there any other
- 25 staircases in any other of the directions that lead
- 170
- was not held during the daytime?
- 5 6 '3, '4, and '5.
- And I believe you testified those were the years where the Vision Quest followed the sweat
- 8 lodge?
- taken on the Vision Quest after that. In 2005 it
- the -- the Vision Quest. And then they did -- the
 - next day when they came back from the Vision Quest
- in the morning, they would do the sweat lodge

 - I do.
 - Q. Can vou tell us.
- 24

- down to this plain where the sweat lodge used to
- 2 sit?
- 3 No. Because the -- the roads that lead to here are all kind of sloping gently so that we
- can drive them easily with the -- the golf carts
- 6 and if necessary other vehicles.
- 7 And then on this particular staircase, do
- 8 you recall what the staircase is constructed of?
- 9 Red rocks. Flat, flat red rocks that are 10 found on the property.
- 11 Q. Is the red rock something similar to 12 sandstone?
- 13 Α. Red rock is sandstone. Yes.
- 14 Q. Thank you, Mrs. Hamilton. I don't think
- 15 I have any other questions for you.
 - THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Hughes.
 - Mr. Li.
- 18 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor,
- 19 **CROSS-EXAMINATION**
- 20 BY MR. LI:
 - Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Hamilton.
- 22 Α. Mr. Li.
 - Now, you would agree with me,
- Ms. Hamilton, that this jury is entitled to full 24
- 25 and accurate information?

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- Α. Absolutely. 1
- 2 Q. And that your testimony to this jury
- should be based on what you have personally seen or
- did -- done: correct? 4

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- Α. Yes.
- ۵ Q. It should not be based on assumptions
- 7 that you might be making; correct?
 - A. Yes.
- 9 Q. It should not be based on things that
- 10 you've heard other people tell you; correct?
- Mr. Li, what you say is when I hear, 11
- 12 that's not what -- that's what I hear somebody tell
- 13 me is not an assumption for me.
- 14 Q. Okay. But if you hear somebody tell you
- 15 about some piece of information that you didn't
- 16 personally witness, you don't know one way or
- another whether that piece of information is 17
- 18 correct: right?
 - A. With what I hear, I can only say what I
- 20 hear, and that is the only thing I intend to do.
- 21 Q. Okay. Thank you. And all I'm trying to 22 explain or ask you, Ms. Hamilton -- and I don't
- 23 mean to argue with you. It's just -- this is not
- 24 for the questioning.
 - But all I'm trying to ask you is that
 - this jury is entitled to information that you
- 2 personally have seen, heard, done. That's --
- 3 that's the most accurate information; correct?
- A. Yes. 4
- 5 Q. Everything else is -- might be an
- 6 assumption; right? It might be an assumption?
- 7 I will share with the jury what I heard
- 8 and what I saw to the best of my recollection.
- 9 Q. Okay. And if you are speculating, you
- 10 might be wrong; correct?
- 11 A. Why would I be speculating?
- 12 Q. I'm just asking. If you speculate, you
- 13 might speculate wrong; correct?
 - I will not speculate, Mr. Li.
- 15 Okay. I'm going to show you an exhibit.
- 16 I believe this is Exhibit 903. And on -- on direct
- 17 examination with Mr. Hughes, you had said, and I
- 18 wrote this down, we would never burn wood with
- nails in it. 19

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- 20 A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Do you remember saying that?
- 22 A. I remember that.
- 23 Q. And you know that because you've
- 24 personally examined every piece of wood that might
- 25 get burned at Angel Valley?

- That's impossible.
- Okay. So you were guessing then, weren't Q.
- 3 you?

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- 4 I was sharing what was our policy, what
 - would be -- what would be directed as supervisors
- 6 as my husband in his function of overseeing. Yes.
- 7 But you personally did not observe all
- 8 the wood in the wood pile, did you?
- 9 I did not see every piece -- piece in the
- 10 wood pile.
 - MR. LI: May I approach, Your Honor?
- 12 THE COURT: Yes.
- 13 BY MR. LI: Ms. Hamilton, I'm -- I'm
- 14 showing you Exhibit 903, which is a log taken from
- 15 Angel Valley by a detective -- detectives. And do
- 16 you see this thing here, right here?
 - Α. Yes.
 - Q. What is that?
- 19 Α. That is a -- that is a nail that if we
- had stacked the logs, we would put tarps over the 20
- 21 logs to protect them for the weather. And
- 22 eventually these logs we could not use anymore for
- 23 construction. When the tarps would come off, well,
- 24 evidently not all the nails have been removed.
- 25 And this is not a big deal. I mean, the

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- only point I'm making is that --
 - May I -- may I show this to the jury,
- 3 Your Honor?
- 4 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
 - Q. BY MR. LI: The only point I'm making,
- Ms. Hamilton, is that when you told this jury that
- 7 you would never burn a piece of wood with a nail in
- 8
- it, you were making an assumption; correct?
 - Α. Yes.
- 10 Q. Now, you also told the jury that the
- 11 sweat lodges were put and constructed in exactly
- 12 the same place; correct?
- 13 A. Yes. In the same location.
- 14 Q. And this is -- well, we'll just work on
- the '06. Sorry. '07, '08. Those two sweat lodges
- 16 were put in exactly the same place?
 - Α. Yes.
- 18 Q. Now -- and you said that because you said
- 19 that there had been a pit there and that -- you
- 20 know -- the pit never moved --
 - Α. Uh-huh.
- 22 Q. -- correct?
- 23 I'm sorry. Just for --
- 24 Α. Yes. Yes.
 - Q. Thank you. Now, you would agree with me

A.

No.

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Q.

And this was a man that your husband,

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- 1 Mr. Hamilton, met in an In-N-Out Burger; correct?
- 2 Α. Yeah.
- 3 Q. And you did not personally do any
 - were in building a sweat lodge, did you?
- 6 Α. I did not.
- 7 Now, just focusing for a second on the

investigation at all into what his qualifications

- 8 '08 sweat lodge, you were not there when it was
- 9 built; correct?

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- 10 Α. I -- the building of the structure took
- 11 about four or five days. And during those days,
- 12 several times as I was driving by, I stopped there
- 13 for a little bit and looked.
- 14 Q. Okay. You -- you --
- 15 Α. But that is the extent of what I know
- 16 about it.
- Q. Okay. So it was very much in passing? 17
- 18 Α.
- 19 Q. And so you have -- you know -- you don't
- 20 have -- you didn't personally observe how -- how
- 21 they were putting together the wooden frame, the
- 22 kıva; rıght?
- 23 Α. In the times that I would be driving
- 24 by --

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- Q. Right.
 - Α. -- I would see what they were doing.
- 2 Q. Other than the -- the passing by, you
- 3 didn't stand there and supervise them and say, no.
- 4 Tie it this way. Tie it that way, and that sort
- 5 of --
- 6 No. I did not supervise them. I
- 7 observed that they knew what they were doing.
- 8 Okay. And this was Debbie Mercer and Ted
- 9 Mercer who were doing this?
- 10 Α. No. They were there, but they were
- 11 assisting.

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- Q. Okay. And who else was doing it?
- Brian Hornbeck. 13 Α.
 - Q. And who is Brian Hornbeck?
- 15 Α. Brian Hornbeck is a -- also a Native
- 16 American man. He is a nephew of David Singing
- 17 Bear.
 - Q. Is he a friend of yours?
- 19 He is not. He was a connection with
- 20 David Singing Bear that David recommended to do the
- 21 actual work.
- 22 Okay. And did you introduce yourself to Q.
- 23 Mr. Hornbeck?
- 24 Α. I did.
- 25 Q. And did you have a long conversation with

- 1 him about anything?
 - Α. Some conversation. Yes.
- 3 O Hello. How are you? Thanks so much for
- 4 helping out. That sort of thing?
 - Α. I don't remember exactly what I said
- 6 in 2008. But social.
- 7 Q. Social. You didn't say where -- where
- 8 are you putting -- are you putting the pit
- off-center? You didn't say that? You didn't have
- 10 a discussion with him about that, did you?
- Q. 12 Now, you testified on direct that you
- had -- you knew that the blankets were the same
- 14 every year?
 - Α. Uh-huh. Yes.
- 16 Q. But you don't personally know which
- 17 blankets were used and in what way each year for
- 18 each sweat lodge, do you?
 - I did not lay the coverings on the lodge.
- 20 Q. And -- and that's what I'm asking. You
- 21 did not personally observe which -- which blankets
- 22 were laying on the sweat lodge in which particular
- 23 way; correct?
 - Α. What I saw was that on the inside you saw
- 25 only blankets, and the vinyl was at the top.
 - 1 And fair enough. But I'm not going -- I
 - don't want to argue with you. But it's just,
 - 3 basically, you didn't -- you don't know exactly
 - which blankets went where -- right? -- because you
 - 5 weren't present when they were being put on?
 - 6 A. I was not present when they were put on.
 - 7 No.
 - 8 So you don't know which blankets were put
 - where; correct? Other than the big brown tarp on
- 10 top, inside you don't know which blankets went
- 11 where; correct?
- 12 Α. Well, everything that was visible from
- 13 the inside, I would see. If you -- if you put
- 14 tarps on the inside, you would see that. When
- 15 you're inside a sweat lodge, you would see whether
- 16 tarps would be facing the -- when you're inside.
- 17 And that was never the case.
- 18 Okay. I'm -- I'm not asking you whether
- 19 there were tarps on the inside or whether there
- 20 were blankets on the inside. I'm -- I'm just
- asking you -- and I'll walk away from this when 21
- 22 we're done. Okay?
- 23 Α. Okay.
- 24 Q. Promise. You just don't know
- specifically which blankets got put where; correct?

- 1 How could you if you weren't even there when they
- 2 were being constructed?
- 3 A. No. But I tell you, the only thing that
- 4 I do know is what I saw when it was done.
 - **Q.** Okay. I have here a stack of papers.
- 6 A. Uh-huh.
- 7 Q. You don't know what page 42 is, do you?
- 8 A. I don't.
- **Q.** You can see the stack of papers right
- 10 here; correct?

- 11 A. Uh-huh.
- **Q.** So you can say to this jury, I see a
- 13 stack of papers; right? Correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- **Q.** But you cannot say I know what's on page
- 16 42; correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
 - **Q.** And that's the only point I'm making.
- 19 You can see a bunch of blankets, but you don't know
- 20 which blanket is which; correct? Is that fair?
 - A. I was -- I was not part of laying them in
- 22 layers.

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- **Q.** Now, if we could talk for a second about
- 24 the Angel Valley Ministries. And can you -- can
- 25 you explain to me how it works. You have Angel
- 186
- 1 Valley Ministries and then you have Angel Valley
- 2 Spiritual Retreat Center; right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. How are they related to each other?
- 5 A. Angel Valley Spiritual Retreat Center is
- 6 a for-profit business under the umbrella of Angel
- 7 Valley Ministries.
- **Q.** Okay. I'll come back to this chart in
- 9 one second. But I just want to see if I -- if I
- 10 have it right. So I'm going to abbreviate since my
- 11 writing is not so great. But Angel Valley
- 12 Ministries; right? And this is a 501(C)(3),
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- **Q.** Which means it's a not for profit?
- 16 A. Yes, it is.
- 17 Q. And so then you have Angel Valley --
- 18 A. Spiritual Retreat Center.
- 19 Q. -- Spiritual Retreat Center as an LLC or
- 20 something like that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- **Q.** LLC. And that's a for profit?
- 23 A. Yes.
- **Q.** So what's the relationship between Angel
- 25 Valley Spiritual Retreat Center, for profit, and

- 1 Angel Valley Ministries, not for profit? Is there
- 2 a line? Does Angel Valley own this? What's the --
- 3 what's the -- how does it work?
- 4 A. Everything we do within the retreat 5 center where business aspects are playing in tha
- center where business aspects are playing in that people are paying money to cover expenses that we
- 7 have, that comes in the retreat center.
 - Q. Okay.

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- 9 A. That is a for-profit business, everything
- 10 lined up, everything the way it is required by IRS.
- 11 And then the ministries is -- that's --
- 12 that's not where the money comes in and goes out.
- 13 That is where there is more donation, where there
- 14 is more without monetary exchanges.
 - But in order for us to do the work in the
- 16 ministry on the piece of property where we have
- 17 financial commitments and in order to have people
- 18 come and receive what they are looking for when
- 19 they come to Angel Valley, they pay us so that we
- 20 can continue to keep this place available for
- 20 Can continue to keep this place available in
- 21 people to do the work.
- **Q.** To do the work of the ministry?
- 23 A. Yes.
 - Q. Okay. So there is a for-profit entity
- 25 that generates income. So, for instance, in the
 - 188
- 1 case of Mr. Ray's 2009 seminar, let's call it about
- \$100,000, give or take. And that money helps the
- 3 ministry do its work; correct?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. So is it -- is it like this?
- 6 MR. HUGHES: Object as to foundation, what he
- 7 means by an arrow.
- 8 THE COURT: Sustained.
- **Q.** BY MR. LI: Okay. Does Angel Valley
- 10 Spiritual Retreat Center support -- I'm sorry.
- 11 This is a little sign. But does it support the
- 12 ministry?
- 13 A. Well, our No. 1 concern has -- our main
- 14 target has been to first and foremost make sure
- 15 that we can be there to cover our expenses.
- **Q.** For the ministry?
- 17 A. We have in the years that -- we have to
- 18 cover our expenses --
- 19 Q. Everything?
- 20 A. -- altogether --
- **21 Q.** Okay.
- 22 A. -- to keep it -- to make it sustainable.
- 23 The situation unfortunately has not happened yet so
- 24 far that we could have nice chunks of money going
- 25 into the ministry because it has not grown that

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48 of 77 sheets

A.

Q.

writing."

We do.

Now, you do a service called "channeled

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Α.

Q.

Not as a session.

Are you familiar with what crystal skulls

A. I am.

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- 2 Q. And you -- I think your husband said you
- 3 have some affinity towards them?
 - A. I do.
- **Q.** And do you charge people for whatever you
- 6 do with crystal skulls?
- 7 A. Not normally.
- 8 Q. Okay. But sometimes?
- 9 A. Very, very rarely.
- 10 Q. Okay. Very rarely sounds to me like
- 11 sometimes you charge people for services involving
- 12 crystal skulls.
- 13 A. I can't remember I did that.
- 14 Q. Okay. How much do you charge, if you
- 15 recall?
- 16 A. And you are -- you are repeating this
- 17 question, Mr. Li. If you want, for every one
- 18 hour -- one and a half hour session at Angel
- 19 Valley, we charge \$144. Our normal sessions are
- 20 one hour and a half. If it is one hour, we charge
- 21 111 per hour.
- 22 Q. Thank you.
- 23 A. That is the rate we charge for any
- 24 session we do.

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- 25 Q. I just don't know. I've never gone.

 - A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. So I'm just asking you for the
- 3 information. Thank you.
- 4 Now, Ms. Foster. She provides a service
- 5 called "Inner Child Card Readings"?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And you -- and what is that?
- 8 MR. HUGHES: Object to relevancy, Your Honor.
- 9 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 10 THE WITNESS: For people to find out what's
- 11 going on inside of them, there are different tools
- 12 that can be used. And one of the tools that Fawn
- 13 uses are -- you know -- a deck of cards that are
- 14 called "Inner Child Cards." And those -- those can
- 15 be very helpful for people to find out what is
- 16 going on inside of them.
- 17 Q. BY MR. LI: Ms. Hamilton, I apologize to
- 18 you because there is a document where exactly what
- 19 you just said to me about the prices is here.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. And I should have looked at it more
- 22 carefully. But this is Exhibit 587. And if I
- 23 could turn your attention to page 3 right there.
- 24 A. Yes.

20

25 Q. Does this -- is this an accurate document

- I that sets out the various rates for the services
- that I've described and asked you about?
- A. If I read it correctly here, this is
- 4 exactly what I just shared with you.
- 5 Q. Yeah. And I apologize. I should have
- 6 read it more carefully.
- 7 And this is -- this document accurately
- 8 reflects what you charge per hour and per hour and
- 9 a half sessions for channeled writing, for
- 10 crystal -- I mean, I understand you don't always do
- 11 it -- but for crystal skulls and for intuitive
- 12 coaching and the other?
 - A. Yes.
- 14 MR. LI: Your Honor, I'd move Exhibit 587 into
- 15 evidence.

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- MR. HUGHES: Your Honor, may I voir dire the
- 17 witness?
- 18 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
- 19 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION
- 20 BY MR. HUGHES:
 - Q. Mrs. Hamilton, was this document a
- 22 contract between you and Mr. Ray?
- 23 A. Not a contract.
 - Q. Was it an agreement between you and
- 25 Mr. Ray?
 - A. This -- this is a document that said the
- term and conditions. Before we make a contract, we
- 3 make sure that the person that we are contemplating
- 4 to make a contract with knows our term and
 - conditions.
- **Q.** Did you have a separate contract for
- 7 Mr. Ray?
- 8 A. Usually we -- each -- for each contract
- 9 we make, we modify the conditions and make it
- 10 specific for that specific retreat.
- 11 Q. Do you have any way of knowing that this
- document shown to you as Exhibit 587 was the form
- 13 that was agreed upon between you and Mr. Ray?
- A. As far as I know, with a contract would go terms and conditions specific for that retreat.
- 16 And this is the general one.
- 17 Q. And does the specific contract
- 18 occasionally modify the terms and conditions of
- 19 your general?
- 20 A. Yes.21 MR. HUGH
- MR. HUGHES: Your Honor, I'd object based on
- 22 foundation and relevance.
 - THE COURT: Sustained.

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could, and just put it up on the screen. Ma'am,

this is -- this is the contract; correct?

24

Α.

Q.

Uh-huh. Yes.

25

vou?

Α.

No.

24

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Α.

Oh, yes.

Okay. And Gary Palisch was the general

- 1 How much material is used for the 2 coverings, whether the coverings are this thick, this thick, or this thick -- that was up to David 4 Singing Bear and others to decide; correct?
- No. David Singing Bear was involved in 5 6 making -- setting up the design --
- 7 Q. I see. Right.
- 8 Α. -- that would give space for 75 people as 9 was requested by James Ray.
- 10 Q. Okay. But that's an interesting point 11 you make. You -- you also -- Angel Valley also 12 rented out the sweat lodge up to 75 people to any 13 group; correct?
- 14 Α. We -- since we had the sweat lodge there, 15 if there was another group who wanted to do a sweat 16 lodge ceremony, they -- we made the sweat lodge available. Yes. 17
- 18 And you offered it to other people, and 19 you said up to 75 people, and you would charge 900 20 to \$1,300 for it; correct?
- 21 Α. Yes.
- 22 Q. And that's in that document I showed you
- 23 earlier --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. -- the general terms and conditions --
- 210

- 1 Α. Yes.
- 2 Q. -- Exhibit 587; correct?
- 3 In 2009. Yes. Α.
- 4 Q. Okay. And so you offered that to other
- 5 people. If they wanted to use the sweat lodge up
- 6 to 75 people, they -- they could. But they had to
- 7 pay Angel Valley 900 to \$1,300; correct?
- 8 Α. Yes.
- 9 Q. And sign a waiver?
- 10 Oh. Yes. Every person who comes to Angel Valley signs a waiver.
- 11 12 Okay. Now, we -- you said David Singing Bear didn't decide how thick the -- the coverings
- 14 were. That was the Mercers; right?
- 15 I would say that was most of all a 16 cooperative decision and everybody who was involved
- 17 in the sweat lodge. I am sure that Gary Palisch
- 18 has also --

13

- 19 Q.
- 20 -- been looking at the thickness of the covers. We have also decided on the thickness of 21 22 the covers.
- 23 Q. So you were involved in -- you personally
- 24 were involved in deciding on the thickness of the
- 25 covers? 53 of 77 sheets

- I was not involved in covering. I was --
- I saw that the covering was thick enough from the
- perspective that I could see it.
- 4 Okay. So you approved how thick the --
- 5 the coverings were?
 - Α. I did.

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15

- 7 Okay. Now, with respect to the location
- 8 of the pit, you didn't have anything to do with
- 9 that decision, did you?
- 10 As far as I know and as far as I always 11 have observed, the pit was centered in the -- in
- 12 the sweat lodge.
- 13 Okay. You -- you wouldn't have any
- 14 dispute, though, if Detective Diskin testifies to
- 15 this jury that it was actually off-center? Would
- 16 you have any reason to dispute that?

would be not in the center.

- 17 I -- all the tens and hundreds of time 18 that I have driven by, I've never noticed that it
- 20 Okay. So you would dispute if -- if
- 21 Detective Diskin testifies that they measured it
- 22 and it was off center? Would you dispute that?
- 23 I would not dispute that. But with
- 24 your -- but with -- from the eye it did not seem
- 25 off center.
 - Q. So for the --
 - Α. If they measured it maybe. I don't know.
- 3 Okay. So for -- for the casual person
- 4 who isn't breaking out a tape measure or a laser
- measure or something like that, when you look at
- the sweat lodge and if it's dark inside, you
- couldn't tell whether it's centered or
- 8 off-centered, could you? Is that, basically, what
- you're telling us?
- 10 No. What I am saying is I have -- I have 11 never been in there when it was dark. But when I 12 was outside and we would be standing by it or
- 13 driving by it, it had never occurred to me that the
- 14 pit would be -- not be centered.
 - Q. Uh-huh.
- 16 So if it was off-centered, if it was 17 measured and it is a few inches more or less, that 18 could be. But I -- it's never -- I have never 19 noticed it.
- 20 Q. Okay. And that's all I'm asking is what 21 you've personally observed --
- 22 Α. That --
 - Q. -- as I said at the start of this whole
- 24 conversation with you.
 - And I guess what I'm asking you is you

23

23

24

safe; correct?

Q.

Α.

They do.

And if it's not safe, they tell you, hey.

You need to fix this, this, and this? You can't

A. I don't know.

The tarp was rubberized; correct?

Q. What about the rubberized tarp on top?

Well, I called it "vinyl." And I ordered

22

23

24

that's treated wood or not. But you can't tell us,

25

describing what kind of wood was used for the fire;

5 for construction was burned to heat the rocks? 6 MR. HUGHES: Objection. Misstates what 7 Mr. Mercer said. 8 THE COURT: Overruled. 9

issue of the fact that wood that was normally used

You can answer that if you can,

10 Ms. Hamilton.

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3 4

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correct?

Α.

Q.

Yes.

THE WITNESS: So now I lost the question.

12 Q. BY MR. LI: He discussed with 13 Detective Diskin the fact that wood that was 14 normally used for construction was burned this time

15 to heat the rocks; correct?

16 I have not recently read that transcript. But I do not remember to read it the way you put 17 18 it.

Q. What do -- what do you remember him saying?

21 Α. What I remember him saying is wondering. And as I felt it in his almost, like, desperation 22 23 to wonder how this could happen, well, maybe --

maybe there was something wrong with the wood.

25 Q. Okay.

226

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A. And he is not knowledgeable on wood. So I didn't get really upset because he just -- it was very simple for us. There was no treated wood

Q. 5 Okay.

Α. 6 The -- the logs were not treated either.

7 So yeah.

there.

8 Q. Okay. You just said he's not

9 knowledgeable in wood; right?

10 Not from that -- not from construction 11 perspective. At least that was my --

Q. Right.

Α. 13 -- my perspective of it.

Now, did Angel Valley train its employees 14

about treated wood? How would people at Angel 15

16 Valley know when to throw away treated wood?

17 People were -- who were in

18 construction -- they were instructed very clearly.

So would it surprise you to -- to learn

20 that Mr. Hamilton told us that he -- it would

21 surprise him that Ted Mercer didn't know anything

22 about treated wood?

23 Α. Yeah.

> Q. Okay. Because Mr. Hamilton, your

25 husband -- 7 Α. Yes. Precisely.

> Q. Right?

9 Α. Yes.

treated wood?

6

8

10 So -- and I'm not saying I know whether

that's treated wood or not. And I'm not even 11

12 saying I know. You know, I don't know. But when

you read that Ted Mercer told detectives that he

14 might have -- and I think in your words -- burned

the wrong wood, you're telling this jury that you 15

16 were not at all worried at all?

17 Α. No. Not really. Because Ted was just upset, and he was looking for what could have been 18 19 the cause. And we said, we just know that there 20 was not no treated wood or -- of any -- any kind. So it -- it didn't really raise that much of a big 21

22 flag for me.

23 Q. Okay. And when you read that same transcript and you saw the words about rat poison,

that also didn't concern you, I suppose?

1 Well, honestly? Α.

> Q. Yeah. Of course.

3 Mr. Mercer in the time that he worked

with us, he was the one who was in charge of the storage. So he maybe would know better than I did

228

in 2008 in the period that he was working on staff

7 at Angel Valley what was -- what was going on with

8 rats. So -- you know --

Q. And poisons; right?

10 And he -- he should have known what were 11 the instructions and how -- how -- what was the 12 normal policy. And I don't know what he has 13 otherwise shared. I don't know.

And that's very helpful to -- to us. I 14 15 mean, I guess you are on a sort of supervisorial 16 level; right?

> Α. Yes.

18 And you don't know everything that the 19 people who are working for you are doing at any 20 given moment; correct?

> A. No.

22 Q. So you don't know what Ted Mercer -- what 23 exact wood Ted Mercer is burning, do you? You can assume. But you don't know exactly what wood he's

25 burning?

1 A. The wood that was that was prepared 2 for the sweat lodge in 2009, both Michael and I 3 have seen which wood was taken. We have given to 4 instructions, use that wood. And there was no 5 pressure-treated wood around at all. 6 Q. I understand. But you don't know 7 physically what wood is burned because you're not 8 the person who's burning it; right? 9 A. Yeah. You have the photos of what was
 3 have seen which wood was taken. We have given to instructions, use that wood. And there was no 5 pressure-treated wood around at all. 6 Q. I understand. But you don't know 7 physically what wood is burned because you're not 8 the person who's burning it; right?
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6 Q. I understand. But you don't know 7 physically what wood is burned because you're not 8 the person who's burning it; right?
7 physically what wood is burned because you're not8 the person who's burning it; right?
8 the person who's burning it; right?
9 A. Yeah. You have the photos of what was
10 piled up that was burned.
11 Q. Just just like you assumed that there
12 are no you never burn wood with nails in it.
13 And yet there is a nail in this piece of wood;
14 right?
15 A. You have
16 Q. Listen, it's not a big deal. But, I
17 mean, you're making an assumption about things;
18 correct?
19 A. Mr. Li, I'm not making an assumption
20 about things. I just share to the best of my
21 ability what is my truth, what I know, what I
22 what I have seen and what I've heard.
23 Q. After this accident there was a lot of
24 public scrutiny, a lot of public public
24 public scrutiny, a lot of public public25 attention?
24 public scrutiny, a lot of public public25 attention?
 24 public scrutiny, a lot of public public 25 attention? 230 1 A. There was.
 public scrutiny, a lot of public public attention? A. There was. Q. Accusations flew out right away?
24 public scrutiny, a lot of public public 25 attention? 230 1 A. There was. 2 Q. Accusations flew out right away? 3 A. I haven't always seen them as
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the zoning use about Angel Valley -- commercial,

25

231 1 religious? Α. Yeah. Q. And whether the uses were proper for --3 for the permit that had been granted for the land? A. If it was zoning, is that the same as permit? I thought that permit was -- had a 7 different meaning. 8 Q. Okay. You have -- and I won't spend too 9 much time. But you have what's called a "conditional use permit" for your land; correct? 11 Α. We do. 12 Q. And there was some question about whether 13 you were complying with the use of your conditional 14 use permit? 15 MR. HUGHES: Objection. 16 THE WITNESS: No. 17 MR. HUGHES: Objection. Foundation and 18 relevancy, 403. 19 THE COURT: Sustained. 20 Q. BY MR. LI: You were aware, were you not, 21 of statements by the Yavapai County officials that 22 you -- that Angel Valley did not have a permit; 23 correct? 24 A. I do not know what permits you are 25 talking about. 232

I'm sorry. The permit for the sweat

2 lodge.

1

3

Α. A permit for the sweat lodge?

Q. Right.

5 Α. Oh. Yeah.

You were aware that -- that folks in the

Yavapai County Building and Safety Department were

saying to the media that you did not have a permit;

9 correct?

10 A. Yeah. They were right.

11 And you took down the sweat lodge before

there was any chance for anybody from the building

13 and safety department to inspect it; correct?

14 The moment we decided to take that down, 15 we had no reason to expect that there would be a 16 request from that --

17 Q. I understand. And -- and my question to you is a little more simple. It's just you took it

19 down before the building and safety folks had a chance to inspect it; correct? We can talk about

20 21

why in a bit. But is that correct?

22 Had they come up on the 9th, then it 23 would be easy.

24 Q. Okay.

> Α. Had they shared with us, hold off with

25

24

25

BY MR. LI: Do you recognize this woman

she chatted with you; correct?

No.

23

24

25

Α.

Q.

Α.

Vailev?

Yes.

I did.

And you allowed a photographer onto Angel

22

23

24

25

Α.

Q.

Α.

Q.

Uh-huh.

The next day. Yes.

The next day.

And there were helicopters flying over?

Okay. And -- and you never offered

25

Α.

Q.

Yes.

Have you seen it?

Α.

Q.

24

25

Yes, it did.

And how far before?

A.

We did.

24

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2010, you gave an interview to the New York Times?

24

25

look at a video --

Sure.

Α.

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- 1 Q. I mean an Internet printout with your
- 2 picture on it?
- 3 A. Sure.
- Q. And I'm going to show Counsel.
- 5 A. Yeah. My recollection is that it --
- 6 Q. Okay, Sorry, Go ahead.
- 7 A. -- that interview was before but that he
- 8 printed it -- that he published it on the online on
- 9 February 16.
- 10 Q. So I'm not -- you don't -- you don't
- 11 recall exactly when you gave the interview. But
- 12 you did give an interview to a Daniel Kraker --
- 13 A. I did
- 14 Q. -- who was reporting for National Public
- 15 Radio?
- 16 A. I did.
- 17 Q. And that story was run on or about
- 18 February 16, 2011 --
- 19 A. Uh-huh.
- 20 Q. -- which happens to be the first day of
- 21 this trial?
- 22 A. That -- that is -- yeah. That is
- 23 something that is not -- has not been in my --
- 24 under my -- in my control.
- 25 Q. Have I -- one other thing. I noticed on

 - your website you are writing a book about this --
- 2 this tragedy; correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- **Q.** And are you going to sell that book?
- 5 A. When it's -- once it's -- once it's been
- 6 published?
- Q. Yes.
- 8 A. Yes. That's the intent.
- **Q.** Have I -- I think I counted 10, give or
- 10 take, media appearances. Have I missed any?
 - A. I don't think so.
- 12 Q. Let's talk for a second about 2009 --
- 13 October -- October 8th, 2009. That's the night of
- 14 the accident?

- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And you -- when the accident happened,
- 17 you did everything you could to help the people --
- 18 the participants; correct?
- 19 A. I did.
- 20 Q. And you -- because they were -- you --
- 21 you -- because you wanted to help them; right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- **Q.** And -- if I could just have a moment.
- 24 So right after the accident, you called
- **25** 9-1-17

- A. I did.
- Q. And then you went back down to render
- 3 whatever assistance you could?
 - A. I did.
 - Q. And then you helped coordinate the
- 6 gathering of the participants into the dining hall
- 7 so that they could be looked at by EMTs and -- and
- 8 that sort of thing; correct?
 - A. I did.
- 10 Q. And you wanted to make sure that the
- 11 people who needed treatment could get treatment and
- 12 that there would -- they would all be centralized
- 13 in a place where the doctors could see them --
- 14 correct? -- or the paramedics could see them?
 - A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And you wanted to share information with
- 17 the participants about what was happening?
 - A. The reason why I collected these people
- 19 there, by that time I had heard from the
- 20 dispatch -- dispatch officer that the two people
- 21 who had been taken out first had died.
 - Q. Were deceased?
- 23 A. And there would be a moment that that
 - would have to be conveyed to the group. And I knew
- 25 it. And they told -- the detectives told me that I
 - 256
- 1 was not the person to tell them. So I wanted them2 to hear it all before some would hear it and other
- 3 people would hear it from other people. So I tried
- 4 to keep them together there.
 - Q. And -- and so you brought them all
- 6 together so that they could hear from the
- 7 detectives what had happened?
 - A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And you also conveyed some information to
- 10 them, did you know not? I've reviewed transcripts
- 11 with you talking on them about what happened. Did
- 12 you talk to people -- the participants? It's okay.
- 13 I just want to know. Were you trying to help them?
 - A. I was trying to help them.
- 15 Q. And try to give them information and
- 16 calm -- keep everybody --
 - A. Not by giving them information. More by
- 18 asking them how they were feeling, what they would
- 19 be needing, how we could -- how -- what could be
- 20 done for them. Would they be hungry? Would they
- 21 be thirsty? Would they be -- would they need
- 22 anything? There was no information that I was
- 23 sharing with them. None.
- 24 Q. Okay. You shared no information with
- 25 them at all?

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- 1 Α. I did not.
- 2 Q. Okay. And you provided them with food and water and blankets and the like?
- 4 Α.
- In the dining room?
 - Q.

5

18

- 6 Α. Yes. Eventually we also brought in some
- 7 blankets because some people were getting tired.
- 8 But what we provided them was most of all food.
- 9 The kitchen staff had to -- had to clear away the
- 10 dinner because people were not hungry. But later
- in the evening, they did get hungry. So the 11
- 12 kitchen staff would come up with food so that
- 13 people could be having something.
- 14 Q. Okay. And you -- and you spent the whole 15 night there taking care of people and attending to 16 their needs and making sure --
- Α. I did. 17
 - Q. -- making --
- I did. Α. 19
- 20 You did. And making sure that they got
- 21 medical attention if they needed it; correct?
- 22 Yeah. Early in the evening the medical
- 23 attention. After that was completed, just whatever
- 24 people needed as we were there and as they were
- 25 being -- as they were being asked to stay there for
 - 258
- 1 the interviews that the detectives had started to do. 2
- 3 Q. And you were supporting them by being
- 4 there -- right? -- the various participants?
- 5 I trusted that my presence there was 6 supportive. Yes.
- 7 And there was -- there was a --
- 8 detectives who were there. I guess not
- 9 Detective Diskin yet. But there were a number of
- 10 detectives who had set up tables to interview
- 11 various of the participants; correct?
- 12 Α. Yes.
- 13 Q. And you saw all of it? It was right in
- front of you; correct? 14
- Α. Yes. 15
- 16 And they would take -- you know -- people
- 17 would sort of wait around, and then they would come
- 18 up and they would have however long -- 40-minute,
- 19 20-minute, hour-long, whatever it is -- interview
- 20 with a detective who was recording; correct?
 - Α. Yes. That's what I saw.
- 22 And then they would leave, and then
- another person would come and -- and interview; 23
- 24 correct?
- 25 Α. Yes.

- Q. And as all of this was happening,
- various -- at times, emergency medical technicians
- would come in and give announcements; correct?
 - Α. No.
 - Q. Police?
 - Α. After -- after the last people that had
- 7 to be checked on were taken to the hospital and the
- paramedics decided that, okay, the rest could be
- 9 done without them, the paramedics left.
- 10 Q. Okay.
 - Α. And then there was just the detectives
- and people of the -- the investigation team were 12
- 13 around.
- 14 Q. Fair enough. And -- and you saw -- and
- 15 you saw those paramedics come. And then -- then at
- 16 some point they -- they said, we're leaving; right?
 - Yeah. When they were done.
 - Q. Now, you heard the emergency personnel
- 19 say to everybody, as would be logical after an
- 20 accident like this, keep an eye on each other --
- right? -- to the participants? 21
 - Α. Yes. Yes.
- 23 Q. And -- and to say -- you know -- hey.
 - Look. Watch out -- watch out for symptoms --
 - nausea, vomiting, dizziness? Watch out for that;
- 1 correct?
- 2 Α. We would say that too.
- 3 Q. Right. But then you heard the
- emergency -- you know -- emergency technician 4
- 5 say -- you know -- keep an eye on each other? Here
- 6 are the symptoms you need to look out for?
 - Α. I have not remember hearing that.
- 8 Q. You never heard an emergency personnel
- say, all right. Everybody who was in the sweat
- 10 lodge tonight, and if you're not going to the
- 11 hospital, just want everybody to keep an eye on
- 12 each other tonight? Okay?
- 13 Α. Yes.
- 14 Q. You heard that; right?
- 15 Α. Yes.
- 16 Q. So you heard exactly that; right?
- 17 Α. You were asking me whether I heard to
- tell them what symptoms they had to look at. 18
 - Q. Right.
- 20 Α. That I didn't hear.
- 21 Q. Okay. But you did hear, all right.
- 22 Everybody who was in the sweat lodge tonight, and
- 23 if you're not going to the hospital, just want
- everybody to keep an eye on each other tonight?
- Okay? 25

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Α. Yes.

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- 2 Q. And that's what you did. You kept an eye
- 3 on each other because you wanted to make sure if
- 4 anybody is really sick, they get to the hospital
- 5 immediately; correct?
 - Α. Absolutely.
- 7 Q. And you heard an EMT come in there and
- 8 say that; correct?
- 9 That evening I didn't exactly know who Α.
- was who. 10
- Q. 11 Okay. But somebody who -- you know --
 - Α. What you were just reading, that was said
 - at some point. But who said it I don't know.
- 14 Q. Okay. So you must have -- if you heard
- 15 that, you must have heard the -- the next sentence,
- 16 which was, we're not exactly sure why. Could have
- been some carbon monoxide with maybe some 17
- 18 organophosphates that were mixed in somehow. So
- we're checking into that. Did you hear that as 19
- 20 well?

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- 21 A. I think I did.
- Q. 22 Okay. And then did you hear a
- 23 participant say, what kind of symptoms should we be
- 24 looking for?
- 25 Α. I don't remember exactly.
 - Q. Okay. And then did you hear -- would
 - it -- would it help you to --
- 3 Your Honor, I'd like to play and move
- 4 into evidence Exhibit 912.
- 5 MR. HUGHES: Objection on foundation and
- 6 hearsay.
- 7 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 8 BY MR. LI: Did you hear the EMT or
- 9 somebody say -- well, sorry. Strike that.
- 10 Did you hear a participant say, what kind
- 11 of symptoms should we be looking for?
- 12 MR. HUGHES: Objection. Hearsay.
- 13 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I -- it's -- it's very well
- 15 possible that was being asked. People were trying
- 16 to find out what to do, what happened. So it could
- 17 very well have been asked. I do not -- I do not
- remember it exactly but could very well be. Yes. 18
- 19 BY MR. LI: Okay. And did you hear the
- 20 person respond, nausea, vomiting, headaches,
- everything you have, if it doesn't get better? The 21
- 22 good news is that the patients that are there that
- 23 were coming in with some, they're already
- 24 improving? So keep an eye -- just keep an eye on
- 25 each other; and if anybody gets worse, either go

- into the hospital or call 9-1-1 and we'll come
- back? So just keep an eye on each other?
 - Α. Yeah.
- 4 Q. You heard that?
 - Α. Yeah.
- 6 Okay. So you heard somebody say -- you Q.
- 7 know -- keep an eye on each other; correct?
 - Α. Yes.
- 9 And you heard somebody say, we're not Q.
- 10 exactly sure why? Could have been some carbon
- 11 monoxide with maybe some organophosphates that
- 12 may -- that were mixed in somehow, so we're
- 13 checking into that; correct?
- 14 If that was being said -- you say
- 15 organophosphates? What -- I mean --
- 16 Q. Did -- did you hear that?
- 17 Α. No. Because I am not familiar with the
- word. 18
- 19 Q. Okay. If it's -- if it's the next
- 20 sentence on a tape after that and you heard the
- 21 first part --
- 22 Α. Uh-huh.
- 23 Q. -- could this jury logically conclude
- that you heard the second part too?
- 25 They -- they could conclude. But it

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- doesn't mean that I heard everything that was being
- said that evening when it was so chaotic and
- 3 everybody was so -- I mean, there were so many
- things going on. 4

5

- Q. Okay.
- 6 Α. But I -- as I say, I -- it could very
- 7 well have been said that I didn't hear it.
- 8 Okay. Now, we're going to talk a little
- more in a bit about all of the various pest control
- 10 devices that you used at Angel Valley. But I
- 11 believe you've told this jury that you did -- that 12 Angel Valley in 2010 used a type of ant killer to
- 13 kill some ants that were under one of the cabins.
- 14 Correct?

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- Α. Once -- once in one incident.
- 16 Q. In 2010?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And that -- is -- that poison was called
- 19 "AMDRO" --
 - Α. Yes.
 - -- correct? Q.
- 22 Α. Uh-huh.
 - Q. And that you've never, ever, ever used
- 24 any other poison at Angel Valley for ants, to
- 25 control ants; correct?

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- Α. No. 1
- 2 Q. Seventy acres in Sedona in the woods, and
- there's only been one time in about 9, 10 years
- that you've owned Angel Valley that you've needed 4
 - to use ant poisoning. Is that your testimony?
- A. Yeah. 6
- 7 Q. And you don't know, for instance, though,
- do you, whether anybody else at Angel Valley used 8
- ant poison, do you? 9
- 10 Α. Absolutely. No.
- Q. But you don't know whether, for instance, 11
- 12 Rotillo on his own decided to use some ant poison?
- Α. No. It would not be -- it would not be 13
- 14 there.
- Q. He could buy it, couldn't he? 15
- A. He would not buy it. 16
- Q. Ma'am, I went to Home Depot this weekend 17
- 18 and purchased some Ortho Orthene Fire Ant Killer.
- 19 It kills the queen and destroys the mound. It's
- for -- to kill ants. 20
- Α. Uh-huh. 21
- Q. 22 And have you ever seen anything like this
- 23 before?

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- 24 Α. I have not.
- Q. 25 Okay. It's -- 50 percent of the

I have not.

- 266
- ingredient is acetate. Have you ever heard of a 1
- chemical called "acetate"? 2

Α.

- Q. Would it surprise you if acetate is, in 4
- 5 fact, an organophosphate?
- A. I don't know about -- I don't know 6
- 7 about -- asofate (sic)? I don't know about
- 8 asofate (sic). And I do not know about
- 9 organophosphate.
- 10 Okay. But -- but you agree with me this
- 11 says 50 percent acetate; correct?
- A. Yeah. I read that. 12
- Q. Okay. And this is a fire ant killer? 13
- A. In big letters. Yes. 14
- 15 Q. And it's from a company called "Ortho"?
- 16 Α. I read that.
- Q. 17 And it's a fairly common company, a
- pesticide company? 18
- A. I don't know. 19
 - Q. Okay. And this is --
- 21 Α. I've never seen it.
- Q. You've never seen this ever? 22
- Α. 23
- 24 Q. And you would never use this on your
- land, would you? 25

- From -- I have not read the whole thing.
- But what's -- what's on it, at first look, I would
- say no. That's one that I pass on. 3
- 4 Q. Because it's organophosphates?
 - MR. HUGHES: Objection. Lacks foundation.
- 6 THE COURT: Sustained.
 - Q. BY MR. LI: You don't know, for instance,
 - whether or not this organophosphate that you can
- 9 purchase at Home Depot was purchased by any of the
- 10 employees or volunteers or anybody at Angel Valley
- 11 and used ever, do you?
 - A. I don't even know.
- 13 MR. HUGHES: Objection. Your Honor, may we
- 14 approach?
- 15 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
- 16 Ladies and gentlemen, Ms. Hamilton, feel
- 17 free to stand and stretch if you wish.
 - (Sidebar conference.)
- 19 THE COURT: Yes, Mr. Hughes?
- 20 MR. HUGHES: Your Honor, the item that Mr. Li
- 21 is waving round in front of the jury is not in
- 22 evidence, lacks foundation. He just walked by in
- 23 front of the jury with it, the front of it
- 24 displayed to the jury as he was walking away from
- 25 Ms. Hamilton. It's improper, not in evidence. And

- I would ask that he not be waving it around showing
- 2 it to the jury.
- 3 MR. LI: Your Honor, I'm simply asking her
- whether or not she's ever used this. She claims
- that she's used one kind of poison. How can she
- 6 possibly say that she doesn't -- that she knows
- that they've never, ever used -- prove the negative
- 8 that they've never used any other kind of poison.
- 9 This happens to be an organophosphate,
- 10 Your Honor. The state has made the argument in
- 11 front of this jury that the only place you can find
- 12 organophosphates is in Sarin and nerve gas and
- 13 those sorts of things. Ms. Polk even wrote it up
- 14 on the ELMO. You can buy organophosphates in Home
- 15 Depot.

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- 16 THE COURT: This witness has indicated no real
- 17 knowledge about this.
- MR. LI: Then I'll move on. 19 THE COURT: Again, we have an exhibit
- 20 appearing that's -- I know you're saying you're
- 21 using it for demonstrative purposes. But I have an
- idea that the state never had any idea this was 22
- 23 going to be demonstrated. You bought it recently.
- 24 So it really is a Rule 15 issue as well. And I'm
- sustaining objections to further questions.

1 MR, LI: I'll move on.

(End of sidebar conference.)

3 Q. BY MR. LI: Ma'am, you don't supervise 4 every single minute of Rotillo Vasquez's day, do 5 vou?

Α. I don't.

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7 Q. And you don't supervise every single 8 minute of every single landscaper who has ever 9 worked at Angel Valley every single minute, do you?

Α. I don't.

Q. And you don't supervise every single 12 minute of every volunteer who has ever been asked to do anything at Angel Valley, do you?

> Α. I don't.

15 Q. And so you don't know, do you, whether or 16 not what these people are doing on any given moment, do you, other than when you're right there 17 with them? 18

A. That's correct.

19 20 So you don't know, for instance, whether 21 Rotillo Vasquez went into Home Depot, bought himself some Ortho Ant Killer because there was 22 23 some ants -- ants on the sweat lodge site? You 24 don't know that, do you?

I absolutely know that that did not

happen.

2 Q. You did not have -- well, I'm not going

3 to -- I'll just ask you one question. You do not

have your eyes on the site where the sweat lodge 4

5 was for every single minute of the day, did you,

6 back in October of 2008 -- 2009?

Α. That's correct.

8 Q. And so you don't -- you cannot see every

9 single minute what -- what people are doing on that

10 land, can you?

> Α. But that's a different question than the question whether somebody gets something at Home Depot.

14 Q. You told us, ma'am, did you not, that you 15 would never, ever, ever burn wood with a nail ın ıt --16

17 Α. Uh-huh.

> -- correct? Q.

I did. 19 Α.

20 Q. And --

21 Α. And you found a nail.

22 Q. And there is a nail in it, isn't there?

23 Α. Yeah.

> Q. So isn't it possible that you're making

25 some assumptions about something that you don't 1 really know the answer to?

2 Buying something at Home Depot as a pesticide or insecticide or anything, I'm 4 absolutely sure.

5 Q. It's very, very, very important to you, 6 is it not, and Mr. Hamilton, that this whole 7 tragedy is Mr. Ray's fault and not your fault;

8 isn't that correct?

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A. That's not up to me to decide, Mr. Li.

10 I understand. But you have -- you have 11 10 lawsuits from people who claim to have been hurt 12 and who were hurt in the accident. And they've 13 sued you, Mr. Hamilton, Angel Valley, Angel Valley 14 Ministries; correct?

Α. 15 That is correct.

16 Q. And they want everything; correct? They

17 want money?

> Α. They want money.

19 Q. Correct?

20 A. But that's a different question from what

you asked me. 21

22 Q. I apologize. They want money from you;

23 correct?

24 Α. They do.

25 Q. And you've also sued Mr. Ray, have you

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1 not?

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2 A. We have.

3 And you claim that prior to this

accident, you were making \$35,000 a month at Angel 4

5 Valley; correct?

> A. We did.

7 Q. And then that has fallen off a lot?

> Α. It has.

9 Q. And so you're suing James Ray, James Ray

10 International, for damages as a result of this

11 accident: correct?

12 Α. We've had tremendous damage to our 13 reputation. And that has -- that has manifested 14 itself in the business that we have in the year 15 following the incident.

16 And so you filed a lawsuit against James 17 Ray and James Ray International; correct?

Α. We did.

19 Q. And you're seeking money damages;

20 correct?

18

21 Α. We do.

22 To compensate you for the loss of income

for the \$35,000 you say that Angel Valley was 23

24 making every month; correct?

That's correct. Α.

- 1 So it matters a lot to you, does it not, 2 for your litigation, the very litigation that your lawyer right here is sitting in -- in the courtroom, that he represents you on -- it's very important for you that this whole accident be
 - No. I don't think the outcome of the lawsuit has anything to do with it.

Mr. Ray's fault and not yours; isn't that correct?

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- 9 But you're -- you want to make sure that 10 everything you tell this jury and everything you 11 tell the media in your 10 appearances and 12 everything you tell everybody in this case -- you 13 want to make sure that everybody understands that 14 there is no possible way that it's your -- any --
- 15 that you bear any responsibility for what happened -- what happened in the accident; isn't 16 that correct? 17
- Α. 18 So what is your question? It's really important for you, ma'am, is 19 20 it not, that in every statement you've made to the 21 media, to this jury, to everybody, that this 22 accident was Mr. Ray's fault and not your fault?
- 23 I have never focused on that. For me 24 it's important that I speak my truth and that 25 mankind learns from things that happen.
 - Q. And we'll talk for a second about the pesticides. But let's move for a second to you -you did not give a full statement to the police until you and your husband had talked to your attorney at that time; correct?
- 6 Α. Time -- timewise that's correct. 7 Q. And your attorney at that time was a guy
- named Mark Zukowski? 8

Α.

- That's correct. Q. And once you had consulted with your 10 11 attorney, Mark Zukowski, you then gave an
- 12 interview -- you and your husband gave an interview
- 13 to Detective Diskin and Mike Poling --
- 14 Detective Mike Poling; correct?
- Α. That is correct. 15
- 16 Q. And --
- 17 Α. May -- may I add something to that?
- 18 Q. Sure.
- 19 The attorney came on our path because we had to report this incident to our liability 20
- insurance, who immediately said, okay. We will set 21 22 an attorney on this case.
- 23 Then when Detective Diskin contacted us 24 to do an interview, the attorney said, I would like

to be with them. And we said, well, we don't see

- the need. But if you feel that that is -- that
- that is what you need to do, then okay. It
- wouldn't have made any difference for my -- for my
- interview with Mr. Diskin. 4
- 5 Q. I understand that. And I'm not saying
- 6 that there is anything wrong. You know, I'm not
- 7 saying that there is anything wrong with hiring an
- 8 attorney when there is a lot of things that are
- 9 happening. But I --
- 10 Α. We did not hire an attorney.
 - Q. Okay. But this attorney represented you;
- 12 correct?

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- 13 Α. He did.
- 14 Q. Okay. So -- and I'll -- I'll rephrase
- 15 the question. Your insurance company hired an
- 16 attorney on your behalf; correct?
 - Α. Well, actually more on their behalf.
 - Q. So they -- so they represent you; right?
- 19 Α. Yes.
- 20 Q. This lawyer who is sitting in the 21 courtroom represents you; correct?
- 22 Α. Yes.
- 23 Q. He doesn't represent the insurance
- 24 company; correct?
 - A. Well, actually yes.
 - Q. I think he would tell you different.
 - Okay. He has duties to you. I won't argue with
 - 3 you. But in any event, you had an attorney
- present. After you talked to your attorney, then
- you gave a statement to -- to Detective Diskin;
- 6 correct?
- 7 Α. Yes.
- 8 Q. And the first thing out of
- 9 Detective Diskin's mouth to you was, you are not in
- any kind of trouble criminally, and we're not 10
- 11 investigating you or your husband. Correct?
 - A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Now -- and you understood that this meant
- 14 that you were just not a target of this
- 15 investigation; correct?
 - That did not make any difference in what I was going to share.
- 18 I understand that that's what you want us 19 to understand. But I guess my only question to you is that you understood that you were not a target 20 21 of this investigation; correct?
 - Α. Yes.
- 23 Q. Thank you. Now, during this interview
- you told the detective at the end -- now, this is
- 25 on October 26, I think, almost three weeks after

- 1 the accident. You told the detective that you
- 2 still had some things that belonged to Mr. Shore in
- 3 your possession --
 - Α. Yes.

- 5 Q. -- at Angel Valley; correct?
- Α. 6 Yes.
- 7 Q. And you had to clean his room?
- 8 Mr. Shore, one of the -- one of the people who
- 9 passed away?
- 10 Α. Yes.
- Q. 11 And in part of that cleaning of the
- process -- or cleaning process, you found things in 12
- 13 Mr. Shore's possession; correct?
- Α. 14 Yes.
- 15 Q. And you found some medications and pills?
- Α. I did. 16
- 17 Q. And you did not give those to the police
- 18 on October 8th or 9th or 10th or any of those days;
- 19 correct?
- 20 Α. No. Because I have -- I didn't have them
- 21 vet.
- 22 Q. You waited until October 26th, 2009, to
- 23 give those pills and medications to
- Detective Diskin; correct? 24
- 25 Α. It was not a matter of waiting. It was
 - as the sequence went into the first days taking
- 2 care of all the people who were there, taking care
- 3 of the -- James Share's -- James Shore's
- belongings, we were waiting for an appointment with
- 5 Detective Diskin. And that's how it just naturally
- 6 happened. There is nothing being scheduled or
- 7 planned about it.
- 8 Q. Okay. Then let me rephrase it. You did
- 9 not give those medications and pills to the police
- 10 until October 26th --
- 11 Α. Yes. Correct.
- Q. -- 2009? 12
- Α. That's correct. 13
- 14 Q. Thank you. You also collected some wine
- 15 bottles and other things?
- Α. Yes. 16

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- Q. And you did not give those to the
- detective until October 26, 2010 -- 2009; correct? 18
- 19 Α.
 - Q. And you also had told the detective you
- 21 had a number of photographs; correct?
- 22 Α. I did.
- 23 Q. And those are some of the photographs
- 24 that we've seen today?
- 25 Α. Correct.

- And you did not give those to the
- 2 detective until October 26, 2009; correct?
 - Α. That's correct.
- 4 Q. Now, some of those photographs are shot
- 5 on a Canon PowerShot A570 --
 - Α. Correct.
- 7 Q. -- correct?
 - And some of those are shot on a Sony
- DSC-T50? 9

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- 10 Α. T50. Yes.
 - Q. And -- now, you believed all of this
- 12 stuff was very important evidence?
- 13 Α. Yes.
- Q. 14 And -- but none of this evidence was
- 15 turned over right away; correct?
- 16 The very first opportunity we had to
- 17 interact with -- with Detective Diskin, that's what
- 18 we decided we would do.
- 19 Well, you could have picked up the phone
- 20 and called him; correct?
 - Α. Uh-huh.
- 22 Q. On October 10, for instance?
- 23 I cannot tell you when exactly we had all
- 24 the things lined up that we did want give to
 - Detective Diskin. And we were waiting for him to

- connect with us because he had said, we will do
- more -- more interview with you. And we were
- 3 waiting for him to contact -- contact us to make
- 4 that appointment.
 - When you gave Detective Diskin the pills,
- 6 he told you that he would check in to see what
- 7 those pills are; correct?
 - Α. Yes.
- 9 Now, those photographs that you gave the
- 10 detective -- and I misspoke. I think you gave them
- 11 to him on November 4th, 2009. Those photographs --
- 12 do you know what a JPEG number is?
- 13 Α. Yeah.
 - Q. Okay. What is a JPEG number?
- 15 Α. The JPEG number is the number of the --
- 16 when you take photos on a camera, each -- each
- 17 image that you take has a number.
- 18 Q. It has a unique number; right?
- 19 Α. It has a unique number that stays on it.
- 20 Q. And so I take 10 pictures of the jury.
- 21 Α. Yeah.
- 22 Each -- each picture will have -- you
- 23 know -- one number assigned to each of the
- 24 pictures?
- 25 Correct.

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- 1 Q. Now, are you aware that there are gaps in
- 2 the photographs that you gave the detective?
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 Q. So this is the camera. DS -- the Sony
- 5 DSC-T50. I think that's your camera. Right?
- 6 A. That's mine. Yes.
- **Q.** And the first JPEG number is 294, and
- 8 then it goes 295. And then there is a gap from 295
- 9 to 300. Did you know that?
- 10 A. I do not know exactly those numbers,
- 11 but -- you know -- I can check that out on my
- 12 computer because I have everything there.
- 13 Q. Okay. So there are missing photographs
- 14 between 301 -- I'm sorry -- 295 and 301. Did you
- 15 give him every photograph you had?
- 16 A. I'm not completely sure. But if there is
- 17 an interest to have them all, he can have them.
- 18 You can have them.
- 19 Q. Now, the other camera is the camera --
- 20 Canon PowerShot 570. There were a number of
- 21 photographs that were taken --
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. -- on that one; correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And then when you provided these
- 282
- 1 photographs to the police, you used Adobe Photoshop
- 2 CS4?
- 3 A. 4.
- **Q.** For Macintosh to put these photographs
- 5 together; correct?
- 6 A. Yeah.
- 7 Q. And we'll talk a little more about
- 8 Photoshop. But you know how to use that, don't
- 9 you?
- 10 A. I do.
- 11 Q. And, for instance, on those -- those
- 12 pictures of the -- of the rat poison in the truck,
- 13 did you use Photoshop to superimpose the -- the
- 14 date? Not the red date, but the white date?
- 15 A. The white date --
- 16 Q. Yes.
- 17 A. Yes, I did.
- 18 Q. Okay. So when you provided the
- 19 photographs to Detective Diskin, did he ever ask
- 20 you, hey, can I -- can I get your hard -- hard
- 21 drive? Can I just pull the hard drive to make sure
- 22 I have all the photographs?
- 23 A. He did not.
- **Q.** And you know, for instance, that the hard
- 25 drive has all of the information, the meta---

- 1 what's called the "metadata"; right?
 - A. Yes
- 3 Q. And the metadata is all the information
- 4 that says -- you know -- when a picture might have
- been modified, when a picture --
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. -- all of that stuff.
 - And you understand all of that because I
- 9 think on --
- 10 A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. -- on direct a lot of the reasons you
- 12 were able to tell what -- what you think what time
- 13 some event happens is that you look at the date on
- 14 the photograph --
 - A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- and you worked your way backwards from
- 17 that; right?
 - A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. So you understand that there is a
- 20 lot of data that's stored in every photograph
- 21 digitally that's on your hard drive; correct?
 - A. That's correct.
- 23 Q. And Detective Diskin did not ask you for
- 24 the hard drive, did he?
- 25 A. I offered to him to take the original and
 - 284
 - some -- some details enlarged, put that on the CD
 - 2 and give that to him.
- 3 Q. I understand. But he did not ask you for
- 4 the hard drive is all I'm asking.
 - A. He did not ask me for my hard drive. No.
- 6 Q. Okay. And he did not ask you for your
- 7 cameras, for instance?
 - A. No, he did not.
- **9 Q.** And -- and I ask you that because you
- 10 understand that a camera, when you set it up, you
- 11 have -- you put in the date; right? I just bought
- 12 a camera.
 - A. Right
- 14 Q. And when you set it up, you can put,
- 15 like, May --
- 16 A. Yes
- 17 Q. -- or April 26th, 2011, put -- punch that
- **18** in?

- A. Yes
- 20 Q. And then you say -- you know -- 4:45 and
- 21 50 seconds?
- 22 A. Yes
- Q. And you can just format -- format it;
- 24 correct?
- 25 A. But you cannot do that after a picture

- 1 has been taken.
- 2 Q. I understand. But you can format the --
- the camera; correct? 3
 - A. Oh, yeah.
- 5 **Q.** And so that's the information that gets
- logged in the computer in --6
- 7 A. Yes.

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- **Q.** -- in what we call the "metadata"; right? 8
- Exactly. 9
- 10 **Q.** And so if -- if the camera is inaccurate
- 11 in any way --
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- **Q.** -- then the time stamps for everything 13
- will be inaccurate; correct?
- 15 A. Correct.
- **Q.** And he --16
- 17 A. That's why -- that's why the pack rat 18 photos had an inaccurate time.
- **Q.** Exactly. 19
- A. Yes. 20
- Q. Exactly. And -- and Detective Diskin
- didn't ask you for your cameras on October 26, did 22
- 23 he?

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- He did not. 24 Α.
- 25 Q. And he also -- and we'll get back to the

 - pack rat photos in a second. He didn't ask you for
- 2 your cameras, your computers, whatever, for those
- pack rat photos either, did he? 3
 - A. No, he did not.
- 5 Q. He just said, okay? Well, you gave me
- these photos, and -- and now we're going put --6
- 7 show them to the jury?
 - A. That's not what he told me.
- 9 Q. Let's move back to October 26, 2009. You
- 10 arranged for -- that day Mr. Hamilton gave an
- interview; correct? 11
- A. Yes. 12
- Q. And that day Ms. Foster also gave an 13
- 14 interview?
- 15 A. She did.
- **Q.** And you arranged -- you personally 16
- arranged for that interview with Detective Diskin; 17
- correct? 18
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. You told Detective Diskin you need to 20
- talk to Fawn Foster because she's got a lot of 21
- 22 things she needs to tell you?
- A. I did. 23
- 24 Q. And you knew that Fawn Foster had a lot
- of things to talk -- tell Detective Diskin because

- you told -- because you -- because she talked to
- you about it; right?
- 3 MR. HUGHES: Object as to foundation as to
- when she talked to Fawn.
 - THE COURT: Overruled.
 - You may answer that if you can,
- 7 Ms. Hamilton.

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- Q. BY MR. LI: And I'm just asking whether 8
- you talked to Fawn Foster, not what you said. But
- did you talk to Fawn Foster before you told
- 11 Detective Diskin that he should talk to her?
- 12 A. I would like to hear the question
- different before I can say when. 13 Q. Okay. Fawn Foster talked to
- Detective Diskin on October 26, 2009; correct? 15
 - Α. She did. Yes.
- 17 Q. And the event happened October 8, 2009;
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. She did.
- 20 Q. Between October 8, 2009, and October 26,
- 2009, when Ms. Foster talked to Detective Diskin, 21
- did you have any -- and this is just yes or no --
- did you have a conversation with Fawn Foster about
- 24 what happened that night?
 - The reason why I asked ---

 - **Q.** Ma'am --
- THE COURT: Ms. Hamilton, if you can answer 2
- the question yes or no, go ahead and do that. If
- you can't --
- 5 THE WITNESS: I cannot give yes or no to this
- question the way you ask me.
- 7 Q. BY MR. LI: Did you talk to Fawn Foster
- about what happened in the accident before she
- talked to Detective Diskin? That's all I'm asking.
- Yes or no? Did you talk to Fawn Foster about what
- 11 happened at the accident before you talked --
- 12 before she talked to Detective Diskin?
 - A. The only thing I talked with Fawn
- 14 Foster was --
- 15 **Q.** Ma'am --
- 16 Your Honor.
- 17 THE COURT: Again, if you -- if you can't
- 18 answer the question yes or no, you have let him --
- 19 THE WITNESS: Then I --
- 20 THE COURT: -- know that.
 - THE WITNESS: Then I cannot answer that.
- 22 THE COURT: Ms. Hamilton, one of us needs to
- talk -- just one of us at a time so Ms. Hunt can 23
- get everything down on the record. So, again, just 24
- 25
 - listen to Mr. Li's question. If you can answer it

- 1 yes or no, then please do it that way. If you
- 2 can't, then let him know that.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- THE COURT: Mr. Li.
- **Q.** BY MR. LI: And is your answer that you
- 6 can't answer yes or no?
- 7 A. I cannot answer yes or no.
- 8 Q. Okay. All right. In any event, you told
- 9 Detective Diskin that he needs to talk to Fawn
- 10 Foster; correct?
- 11 A. I did.
- 12 Q. And you arranged for the interview;
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. When Detective Diskin was at Angel
- 15 Valley. Yes.
- **16 Q.** Okay. Now, let me -- let me just talk
- 17 for a few seconds about the -- the lawsuits that --
- 18 that you're currently pending. These are the
- 19 lawsuits brought by the participants.
- 20 Do you have that clear in your mind?
- 21 A. Yes.
- **Q.** Okay. One of the plaintiffs is a woman
- 23 named Beverly Bunn?
- 24 A. Yes.
- **Q.** Another person is Dennis Mehravar?
- 290

A. He is.

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- 2 Q. Another person is Sidney Spencer?
- 3 A. She is.
- 4 Q. Another person is Stephen Ray?
- 5 A. He is.
- **Q.** Brandy Rainey-Amstel?
- 7 A. She is.
- 8 Q. Sean Ronan?
- 9 A. He is.
- 10 Q. Sandra Andretti?
- 11 A. She is.
- **Q.** And the estates of the various people --
- 13 the relatives of the three people who passed away?
- 14 A. Correct.
- **Q.** And these are all the people who are --
- 16 who are suing you right now; correct?
 - A. Yes
- 18 Q. Now, true or false? In June 2010 you and
- 19 Mr. Hamilton invited all of the participants,
- 20 including those people, to come do a healing
- 21 experience at Angel Valley; correct?
- 22 A. That was not including the 10 claimants.
- **Q.** That was not including the 10 claimants?
- A. They were welcome, but the letter was not
- 25 sent to the 10 claimants.

- Q. Okay. And a condition of the -- of those
- 2 people coming to your property to undergo this
- 3 healing experience was that they release and waive
- 4 any legal claims that they have against you;
- 5 correct?

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- 6 A. It is a quote, but you -- the way you
- 7 quoted, it is out of context.
- 8 Q. Okay. But -- I understand that's your
- 9 position. But did you ask them to waive their
- 10 legal claims against you?
 - A. Not the way you asked me.
 - Q. Okay. Then --
- 13 A. I cannot answer it with a yes or no.
- 14 Q. -- did -- I guess I'll just ask it this
- 15 way: Did you ask -- you -- you decided -- you
- 16 offered them a healing experience; correct?
- 17 A. We did.
 - Q. And one of the conditions of them coming
- 19 to the healing experience was to waive their claims
- 20 against you, Mr. Hamilton, Angel Valley, Angel
- 21 Valley Ministry; is that correct?
 - A. It was a proposal to -- to have this
- 23 healing program. We wanted to have the insurance
- 24 company pay for that healing, and the insurance
 - company wanted them a --
- **,**
 - 1 Q. A waiver?
 - A. A waiver.Q. Now, you -- you have rea
 - 3 Q. Now, you -- you have read -- now,
 - 4 let's -- let's talk for a second about the -- the
 - 5 various poisons that have been used at Angel
 - 6 Valley. How many times in the last 17 months or so
 - 7 have you spoken to Detective Diskin?
 - A. How many times I have spoken to
 - 9 Detective Diskin? Before the interview in October,
 - 10 we had a meeting with Detective Diskin in March of
 - 11 this year when he asked us about the insecticides
 - 12 or whatever we used.
 - 13 And in between Detective Diskin has
 - 14 called us a couple of times to ask information
 - 15 about the number of the groups and the dates and
 - 16 names and could we bring him in contact with.
 - 17 Q. So --
 - 18 A. There were a couple of phones calls in
 - 19 between.
 - Q. What do you think? Five or 6 or 10 or 12or 15? How many times do you think you've
 - 22 communicated with Detective Diskin?
 - 23 A. Maybe -- I don't know. I haven't counted
 - 24 them.
 - Q. More than 10? Less than 10?

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- 1 A. I would say less than 10.
- 2 Q. Less than 10. And the first time was on
- 3 October 26, 2009?
- 4 A. That's when we had our interview. Yes.
 - Q. And that was tape-recorded; correct?
- 6 A. That was taped. Yes.
- 7 Q. And then you had another interview with
- 8 Ms. Do and Mr. Kelly on April 6, 2011; correct?
- 9 A. Yes

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- 10 Q. And that interview was tape-recorded?
- 11 A. Yes
- **Q.** Now, in all of the other conversations
- 13 that you've had with Detective Diskin, those have
- 14 not been recorded, have they?
- 15 A. No.
- **16 Q.** So, for instance, on your March 21st,
- 17 2011, conversation with Detective Diskin about
- 18 pesticides, they didn't record that one, did they?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. And in that interview you and
- 21 Mr. Hamilton were interviewed together; correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Sitting right next to each other?
- 24 A. You say interview. Yeah.
- 25 Q. Together?

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- 1 A. Oh, yeah.
- **Q.** And so you heard what each of you said;
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
 - Q. Because you're sitting right next to each
- 6 other?

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- A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And in other interviews you'd been told
- 9 that it's not good police practice to keep --
- 10 Interview witnesses together because they might
- 11 influence each other's testimony?
- 12 A. I have not considered the meeting of
- 13 March 21st as a testimony or a -- or a formal
- 14 interview. It was more -- my understanding was
- 15 that he wanted to hear from us how we do those
- 16 things. So for me it was -- yeah.
- change of the true your
- **Q.** Well, it's not your fault. I'm just
- 18 saying that you were interviewed about toxins and
- 19 pesticides and all of those sorts of things about,
- 20 I think, a month into this trial. And you -- you
- 21 and your husband were interviewed right next to
- 22 each other; correct?
- 23 A. Uh-huh. Yeah.
 - Q. And it wasn't tape-recorded?
- 25 A. No.

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- Q. You understood, however, that it was
- 2 really important that you tell Detective Diskin,
- 3 Ms. Polk, Mr. Hughes, anybody in the state,
- 4 accurate information; correct?
 - A. Oh, yes.
 - Q. And this is from the beginning; correct?
- 7 A. Oh, yeah.
 - Q. And that it was important not to conceal
- 9 anything?
- 10 A. Yes. Absolutely.
- 11 Q. That -- to tell -- tell everybody
- 12 everything you knew about what might have caused
- 13 this terrible accident; correct?
 - A. No.
- **Q.** Well, you knew it was important to give
 - every piece of information that you had; correct?
 - A. I was not requested to give every
- 18 possible reason for this accident. I was -- I was
- 19 asked what did we do over the years with
- 20 insecticides and pesticides. That's a very
- 21 different question, Mr. Li.
- 22 Q. Okay. All right. So you understood that
- 23 your duty to the state was to just answer the --
- 24 the limited question that they were asking you;
- 25 right?

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- To the best of my ability, I answered the
- questions with the information that I felt was what
- 3 I could provide for what I understood was what they
 - needed.
- **5 Q.** And I forgot if I asked you. Was your
- 6 attorney present at this interview?
- 7 A. Oh, no.
- 8 Q. Okay. Now, you talked to the police on
- 9 the 26th of 2009; right? We mentioned that.
- 10 A. We did.
- 11 Q. And that's recorded?
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. And you did not mention in that interview
- 14 with Detective Diskin on October 26, 2009, Angel
- 15 Valley's use of insecticides then, did you?
- 16 A. No, we didn't.
- 17 Q. Now, this is a chart that your husband
- 18 filled out about all the different kinds of pest
- 19 control devices that were used at Angel Valley.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. None of these things -- One Bite, d-CON,
- 22 Eaton green bars, mothballs, cats, One Bite, orange
- 23 oil tea -- I don't even know how to pronounce this,
- 24 diatomace (sic) --
- 25 A. Diatomaceous.

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- 1 who said -- signed -- you know -- on this
 2 particular date -3 A. Yes.
 4 Q. -- right?
- A. That's correct.Q. And in that affidavit that you signed on
- 7 September 20th, 2010, you do not mention Angel
- 8 Valley's use of insecticides, do you?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. And you do not mention Angel Valley's use
- 11 of rat poison, do you?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. And that's September 20th, 2010 --
- 14 A. Yes.
- **Q.** -- almost a year after the accident;
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. Uh-huh.
- **Q.** And -- and you filed a lawsuit -- I mean,
- 19 just for the record?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Thank you. You also filed a lawsuit
- 22 against Mr. Ray on September 17th, 2010; correct?
- 23 A. We did.
- 24 Q. And in that lawsuit against Mr. Ray and
- 25 JRI, you do not mention Angel Valley's use of rat
- 1 poison; correct?
- 2 A. No.
- **Q.** And you do not -- I'm sorry?
- 4 A. No, we don't.
- **Q.** And you do not mention Angel Valley's use
- 6 of insecticides; correct?
- 7 A. Correct.
- **Q.** Now, in the 10 or so interviews that
- 9 you've done with the media -- National Public
- 10 Radio, ABC, CBS, NBC, local ABC, Associated Press,
- 11 Four Corners Magazine -- you do not mention at any
- 12 point in any of those Angel Valley's use of
- 13 insecticides, do you?
- 14 A. No.
- **Q.** And you do not mention at any point in
- 16 any of those interviews, that span from
- 17 October 13th, 2009, all the way to the first day of
- 18 the trial --

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- 19 A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. -- February 16th, 2011, you never mention
- 21 insecticides; correct?
- 22 A. No.
- **Q.** And you never mention rat poison;
- 24 correct?
- 25 A. No.

- Q. Then trial starts October 16th, 2011?
- 2 A. Yeah.
- 3 Q. And -- and do you know that I gave my
- 4 opening statement on March 1st, 2011?
- 5 A. I know that you gave an opening 6 statement. But by then there had been a court 7 order that told us not to follow the trial.
 - Q. And you didn't follow it at all?
- 9 A. No.
- **Q.** Okay. And after my opening statement,
- 11 about 20 days after, that's when Detective Diskin
- 12 invites you and your husband to come to the
- 13 Yavapaı -- or the Prescott Valley Sheriff's office;
- 14 correct?

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- A. He did.
- 16 Q. And that's four or five weeks in the
- 17 middle of trial; correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And he came -- he invited you to come in
- 20 to talk about the accident, what happened on
- 21 October 8th, 2009; correct?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. He didn't call to ask you about what
- 24 happened on October -- about what pesticides you're
- 25 using and that sort of thing?

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- A. You now mention something different.
- 2 Q. Understood. So I'll -- I'll rephrase the
- 3 question.

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- A. Yes. Please.
- Q. Did he -- did he ask you about the use of
- 6 insecticides on -- and pesticides on -- during that
- 7 interview?
- 8 A. He -- in that interview, he asked us
- 9 about our use of pesticides, insecticides, and
- 10 stuff like that over all the years that we have
- 11 been at Angel Valley. That was his question, and
- 12 that was what we tried to answer, and that is what
- 13 we have tried to provide any kind of -- you know --
- 14 physical information. That is what was his
- 15 question, and that is what our answer was.
- **16 Q.** Okay.
- 17 THE COURT: Excuse me, Mr. Li. It is past
- **18** 5:00.
- 19 MR. LI: Okay.
- 20 THE COURT: We need to stop.
- 21 Ladies and gentlemen, we will break for
- 22 the evening recess. Please remember the
- 23 admonition. And assemble at the regular time
- 24 tomorrow 9:15. The following day, day after
- 25 tomorrow, April 28, I may adjust the schedule a
- Page 301 to 304 of 306

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1 bit. We may start a bit earlier, take a bit
 2 shorter lunch, and then -- and then stop a bit
    earlier as well. But the regular schedule for
    tomorrow.
              Ms. Hamilton, again, please remember that
    rule of exclusion. And you and the jury, counsel
 7
    and parties, are excused.
              Thank you.
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         MR. LI: Thank you.
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              (The proceedings concluded.)
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STATE OF ARIZONA
                                REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
                            ss:
     COUNTY OF YAVAPAI
               I, Mina G Hunt, do hereby certify that I
     am a Certified Reporter within the State of Arizona
     and Certified Shorthand Reporter in California
               I further certify that these proceedings
     were taken in shorthand by me at the time and place
     herein set forth, and were thereafter reduced to
     typewritten form, and that the foregoing
11
     constitutes a true and correct transcript.
               I further certify that I am not related
12
     to, employed by, nor of counsel for any of the
    parties or attorneys herein, nor otherwise
14
     interested in the result of the within action
               In witness whereof, I have affixed my
16
     signature this 5th day of May, 2011
18
20
21
23
                MINA G HUNT, AZ CR NO 50619
CA CSR NO 8335
```

1	STATE OF ARIZONA)	
2) ss: REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE COUNTY OF YAVAPAI)	
3		
4	I, Mina G. Hunt, do hereby certify that I	
5	am a Certified Reporter within the State of Arizona	
6	and Certified Shorthand Reporter in California.	
7	I further certify that these proceedings	
8	were taken in shorthand by me at the time and place	
9	herein set forth, and were thereafter reduced to	
10	typewritten form, and that the foregoing	
11	constitutes a true and correct transcript.	
12	I further certify that I am not related	
13	to, employed by, nor of counsel for any of the	
14	parties or attorneys herein, nor otherwise	
15	interested in the result of the within action.	
16	In witness whereof, I have affixed my	
17	signature this 5th day of May, 2011.	
18		
19		
20		
21		
22	li, à Callinat	
23	MINA G. HUNT, AZ CR NO. 50619	
24	CA CSR No. 8335	
25		